

U.S. lawmakers slam Bush for 'soft' policy on Iraq

WASHINGTON (R) — Members of Congress Tuesday made the most severe criticism so far of President George Bush's handling of the Gulf crisis, saying U.S. policy had been based on appeasing Iraq days before it invaded Kuwait.

Breaking ranks with Bush is significant numbers for the first time since the crisis began, members of a key House of Representative subcommittee lashed out at Assistant Secretary of State John Kelly when he appeared before them to discuss the Gulf.

"Administration policy was based on fiction and fantasy... that policy was an abysmal failure," said Neil Levine, a Democratic congressman and several house members to echo the same sentiment.

They also pledged to oppose a \$21 billion U.S. arms package for

Saudi Arabia, saying the sophisticated weaponry would threaten Israel and destabilise the Middle East.

The members accused the administration of trying to sneak the biggest arms deal in history through the Congress in the last few weeks before its recess.

Up until now Bush has received wide praise for his handling of the biggest foreign policy crisis of his presidency, persuading most nations to join in the trade embargo against Iraq and sending about 140,000 troops and more than 70 warships to the region to pressure Baghdad.

Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens, in talks with Defense Secretary Dick Cheney Monday, pressed for more arms from Washington, saying the Saudi deal could upset the military balance in the area.

Arens returns from U.S. with weapons but no aid

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens returned from the United States Wednesday with a Jewish new year "gift" of advanced weapons but without agreement on extra military aid.

Israeli newspapers and radio said U.S. Defense Secretary Dick Cheney agreed to provide Israel with 15 F-15 fighters, two Patriot missile batteries, and 10 CH-53 cargo helicopters to help offset planned arms sales to Saudi Arabia.

"We are generally satisfied with the results of our mission to the United States but there is still work to be done," Arens told reporters at Ben-Gurion airport. He would not comment on details of the arms package or aid request.

"It will still take some time before we can expect a decision on Israel's additional military aid requests," he said.

Israeli media said Arens sought \$1 billion in emergency assistance

and \$50 million in extra military grants. The request stunned Washington but U.S. officials did not reject it outright.

Israel's Washington's traditional Middle East ally, already receives \$1.8 billion in annual military grants, more than any other country.

Arens gave Washington an annual "wish list" Monday after voicing alarm over Washington's proposed \$20 billion weapons to Saudi Arabia.

Military sources said the F-15s would be in addition to those Israel had already ordered and that the deal for the Patriots was apparently finalised after months of negotiations.

U.S. Ambassador to Israel William Brown said last week that Israel would receive the 10 extra cargo helicopters.

Brown also said Washington would send Israel 18 tank-killing Apache helicopters, up to 60 F-16C and F-16D fighter planes, and possibly Stinger missiles.

Palestinians help run Kuwait, refugees say

KHAFFI, Saudi Arabia (R) — The Palestinian professionals and skilled workers who helped build up Kuwait over four decades are now running the emirate virtually single-handed, say refugees reaching Saudi Arabia.

Palestinian residents of Kuwait, who numbered some 300,000 before the Iraqi invasion on Aug. 2, are the only government employees turning up for work in non-essential departments, they said.

A few Kuwaitis are helping to operate power stations and water desalination plants, without which life in the hot and highly automated city would rapidly become impossible.

But even in these essential utilities a high proportion of the work force is Palestinian, the refugees say.

Kuwaitis have boasted for years of their hospitality to refugees from Palestine and of their financial and diplomatic support for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

It was in Kuwait that Yasser Arafat and a small circle of Palestinian nationalists founded

the Fatah movement in the late 1950s, starting a relationship that seemed to be enduring.

The Kuwaitis now feel deeply betrayed by the Palestinians "collaborating" with the Iraqi "occupiers."

"To hell with the Palestine cause. Now we know who our friends are and the Palestinians in Kuwait were denied full citizenship."

Iraq has played on this anomaly, portraying the rulers of Kuwait as a greedy elite hanging on to their oil wealth at the expense of their Arab masses and the Palestine cause.

The same sentiment has run through Palestinian demonstrators in the West Bank and Jordan in support of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

Diplomats in the Gulf say that if the U.S.-led multinational force now massing in Saudi Arabia drives Iraqi troops out of Kuwait, the Palestinians will be among the first to suffer.

"I expect there will be scores to settle and much shedding of blood," said a European diplomat in Bahrain.

The sources would not give a time frame for settlement of the military equipment compensation case, nor put a dollar amount on it.

Pakistan ponders Saudi call for more troops, wider role

ISLAMABAD (R) —

Pakistan, looking for opportunities to increase its standing in the Gulf, is considering a request from Saudi Arabia to send an armoured brigade.

About 2,000 Pakistani infantrymen have already been sent to join the multinational force and another 3,000 are due to join them soon.

No formal request has been made for Pakistani armoured warfare specialists, but a senior government official said Riyadh had indicated it would like an extra armoured brigade.

"One way would be for the armour to come from the western United States, told a crowd at a fund-raiser that he intended to keep the pressure on Iraq by enforcing a world trade embargo against Baghdad and "prove to (Iraq) that aggression does not pay." He insisted that any humanitarian food or medical supplies for Iraq would be distributed under international supervision to insure Iraqi's army does not divert it.

The most damning evidence of what some critics are openly describing as "appeasement" is a transcript released by Iraq of a July 25 meeting in Baghdad between Saddam Hussein and the U.S. ambassador to Iraq, April Glaspie.

In the transcript, Glaspie stressed that Washington wanted better relations with Iraq, even as Saddam was making "aggressive" comments and appeared to threaten the United States with guerrilla attacks if it supported Kuwait in its dispute with Baghdad.

Under repeated questioning, the State Department has not challenged the authenticity of the transcript and has refused to comment on its contents.

Larry Smith, a Democratic congressman, said: "There is a significant lack of judgment that has been prescriptive on policy decisions that have been made in the last few months."

U.S. about to pay \$200m in Iran claim

THE HAGUE (AP) — The United States is about to pay a \$200 million Tehran claim for money left over from its post-revolutionary payments on undeveloped American weaponry, Western diplomats here said Tuesday.

The money is in a trust fund set up for Iran and maintained by the U.S. Department of Defense to pay for the military equipment.

The trust fund claim is part of the foreign military sales (FMS) claim, the largest being arbitrated here by the Iran-United States claims tribunal.

The diplomats, speaking on condition of anonymity, said settlement of the claim was imminent.

Iran has set the total FMS claim at \$11 billion, a figure the U.S. government disputes as inflated.

Also close to settlement is Iran's compensation claim for weaponry sent for repairs, but impounded by the U.S. government in the wake of the 1979 U.S. embassy seizure in Tehran by the tribunal.

Once the trust fund case is settled, the \$200 million will be deposited in the so-called security account from which money is paid out to American claimants at the tribunal.

The nine-year-old tribunal is charged with arbitrating all commercial and government-to-government claims between the two nations arising out of the 1979 Iranian revolution, and the ensuing expropriations and broken contracts.

Transfer of the residue in the FMS trust fund has been a focus of nine months of negotiations here between American and Iranian officials, even though other portions of the 1,200-case FMS claim are far from settlement.

"Even if all the FMS claims were resolved, even the United States admits that there is going to be some money left over in the fund, and Iran should have that money now," said one of the diplomats.

The sources would not give a time frame for settlement of the military equipment compensation case, nor put a dollar amount on it.

Levy sees 'friendlier' Israel-Europe relations

LOD (AP) — Foreign Minister David Levy indicated Tuesday that Israel had made an unexpected diplomatic comeback in Western Europe whose leaders have toned down criticism of the Jewish state's handling of the Palestinian issue.

Levy, speaking after a trip to Brussels, said foreign ministers of the 12-member European Community (EC) had listened with a "substantive approach" to his requests for new trade agreements.

"Now the atmosphere is better. Our matters are more understood. All in all we return home satisfied from the talks," Levy told a news conference at Ben Gurion airport in Lod, a town near Tel Aviv.

Levy said the ministers showed "a readiness to respond to an honourable portion" of Israel's requests to continue a preferential trade status with the community after it unified in 1992. "I am happy with the substantive approach," Levy added.

Israel is particularly looking to protect the lucrative nature of agricultural and industrial exports to Europe at a time when maintaining these enterprises is crucial to absorbing a huge influx of Soviet

immigrants.

"I am also happy the discussions went without tensions and threats of sanctions or steps against Israel as many had expected, but the opposite," Levy said of his three days of meetings.

European nations have formerly been outspokenly critical of Israel's handling of the 34-month Palestinian uprising and have frequently threatened trade sanctions against the Jewish state.

Levy indicated he had also expected to hear requests to send an envoy to monitor actions in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"There was a suspicion that this issue would be at the centre of our arguments between us... I can say that this topic was not even brought up in our talks, and I am happy about this," he said.

Levy claimed the warmer relations with Europe were the result of intense Israeli diplomatic efforts in recent months.

The rapprochement also comes amid a six-week Gulf crisis and marked decline in uprising casualties, both of which have enhanced Israel's image and taken the spotlight off the Palestinians.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Ex-CIA agent guilty on tax charges

WASHINGTON (R) — A former agent of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) who helped arrange covert arms sales in the Iran-contra scandal that rocked Ronald Reagan's presidency, was found guilty Tuesday of failing to pay income taxes on his share of the profits, authorities said. A spokesman for the office of a special prosecutor set up to continue investigation into the affair said Thomas Clines was found guilty on four tax charges by a jury in Baltimore. Clines, a business partner in the Iran-contra arms supply operation known as "The Enterprise," will be sentenced on Oct. 31. He faces up to 16 years in prison and a million-dollar fine.

Sheikh Jaber to address U.N.

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The toppled emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, driven into exile in Saudi Arabia by Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion, will address the U.N. General Assembly on Sept. 27, a U.N. source said Tuesday. Iraqi Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz is scheduled to speak in the 160-nation assembly Oct. 1.

Iranian captain found guilty of oil spill

SYDNEY (R) — The captain of an Iranian wheat carrier has been found guilty of causing an oil spill which blackened several of Sydney's famous Golden Beaches in March this year, court officials said Wednesday. Khalid Ahmad, captain of the vessel Iran Afzal, was fined 40,000 dollars (\$33,200) and ordered to pay 5,000 dollars (\$4,150) in costs by the New South Wales land and environment court. The spill, which occurred during the transfer of oil between tanks on the vessel, stretched along five kilometres of Sydney's eastern coastline, coating the city's beaches — including Bondi beach — with thick brown sludge. Local councils spent hours sweeping the beaches clean but there was no reported damage to wildlife.

India sends ship to Iran ports

NEW DELHI (AP) — Two Indian ships have sailed from Bombay to pick up as many as 2,500 refugees from the Iraqi port of Umm Qasr. Foreign Ministry officials said Wednesday. It was the first time Indian citizens were being evacuated directly from Iraq rather than from refugee staging camps in Jordan, Dubai or other Middle East countries, the officials said. India has evacuated 48,575 of its nationals by air and sea since the Aug. 2 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, in what officials describe as the largest operation of its kind since World War II. On Sunday, a cargo vessel loaded with 11,000 tonnes of relief supplies for Asian refugees left for Umm Qasr, just inside the Iraqi border and 75 kilometres north of Kuwait City. The passenger ships Akbar and Tipu Sultan, with a combined capacity of 2,500, left Bombay Tuesday night for the six-day voyage. Two doctors and medical supplies also were on board, the officials said.

Saudi foreign minister in China

BEIJING (R) — Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal arrived in China Wednesday after a visit to Moscow where he said he would welcome Soviet troops in Saudi Arabia as part of an international force to confront Iraq. The official New China News Agency said Prince Saud was on a working visit and was met at Beijing airport by Chinese Deputy Foreign Minister Yang Fuchang. Officials said he would meet President Yang Shangkun on Thursday. No other details were disclosed. China and Saudi Arabia established diplomatic relations just two months ago after Riyadh switched recognition from nationalist Taiwan. Diplomats said Prince Saud would press China as one of five permanent members on the United Nations Security Council to lend its full support to U.N. sanctions against Iraq. Before the Gulf crisis, China expressed its willingness in principle to assist U.N. peacekeeping forces. It was not known whether Prince Saud would match his Moscow initiative by inviting Chinese troops to Saudi territory. While backing U.N. sanctions against Iraq, China has voiced opposition to "big power" involvement in the region.

Western families to leave Kuwait

BAGHDAD (R) — More Western women and children were expected to fly out of Kuwait Wednesday and on to London in the evening after a stop in Baghdad. British embassy sources said passengers on the Iraqi Airways Boeing 747 will be mostly Americans plus "a few Britons." The numbers were unknown but the 440-seat plane will not be full, the sources said. Other foreign families will join the flight in Baghdad. More than 1,500 Western and Japanese women and children have left Iraq and Kuwait since President Saddam Hussein told them on Aug. 24 they were free to go. Their menfolk are not allowed to leave. Many are kept at military bases or industrial sites to deter attack during the crisis over Kuwait. Japanese diplomats said Wednesday they were hoping Iraq would let 10 ill or elderly Japanese men leave the country. Antonio Inoki, a popular wrestler-turned politician, arrived in Iraq Tuesday to discuss the fate of about 140 Japanese held at likely targets, another 180 Japanese in Iraq and about 20 in Kuwait.

Two American, Dutch ships enter Suez Canal

SUEZ (AP) — An American cargo ship and a Dutch vessel chartered by the U.S. navy and carrying four American mine-sweepers entered the Suez Canal Wednesday headed for the Gulf, a canal official said. The official said the Cape Isabel, a U.S. cargo ferry, and the Dutch Super Servant 3 were in the regular southbound convoy through the canal. In Ijmuiden, Holland, Erik van Oosten, a spokesman for the Wijsmuller Salvaging and Towing Company, said the Super Servant 3 was a semi-submersible heavy-lift vessel en route with U.S. navy cargo from the East Coast

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

16:15 ... Cairo (RJ)
16:25 ... New Delhi (RJ)
16:30 ... Cairo (RJ)
16:45 ... Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
16:55 ... Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
17:25 ... London (RJ)
17:30 ... New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
18:30 ... Paris, Rome (RJ)
19:30 ... Calcutta, Bangkok (RJ)
20:15 ... Casablanca (RJ)
20:45 ... Rome (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

06:00 ... Damascus, Paris (AF)
12:15 ... Frankfurt (LJ)
14:45 ... Riyadh (SV)
16:45 ... Bahrain, London (SV)
17:20 ... Ankara, Istanbul (TK)
17:30 ... Dubai (EK)
18:30 ... Cairo (MS)

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

16:00 ... Children programme

16:15 ... Religious programme

16:30 ... Friday's prayer

16:45 ... Sports programme

16:55 ... Feature film

17:00 ... News summary

17:15 ... Local programme

17:30 ... Friday's prayer

17:45 ... Religious programme

17:55 ... Feature film

18:00 ... News summary

18:15 ... Local programme

18:30 ... Friday's prayer

18:45 ... Religious programme

18:55 ... Feature film

19:00 ... News in French

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Jordan stands to lose at least \$200m in the tourism sector'

Gulf situation hits Jordanian tourism

AMMAN (J.T.) — Hard hit by the present situation in the Gulf and the fears of a war in the region Jordan stands to lose at least \$200 million in the tourist sector in the last five months of 1990, Minister of Tourism Abdul Karim Al Kabariti said Wednesday.

The tourism industry, which entails hotels, restaurants and transport facilities, was severely affected as well by distortion of facts by hostile circles about the situation in Jordan, the minister said at a meeting with representatives of the various tourist organisations and tour operators in Jordan.

"The Western media has played a negative role in distorting Jordan's image, resulting in the cancellation of most previously arranged tours and bookings to Jordan," the minister said.

In reviewing means of promoting the tourism industry and the tourist sector Kabariti said that a special private sector committee had been formed to help find ways for offsetting the negative

effects of the crisis in Jordan.

"The Jordanian government is keen on supporting the tourism sector and to activate internal and external tourism, and it has made arrangements for contacts with a number of Western countries to lift a tourist ban that had been imposed on the Kingdom and to remove distortions that had marred Jordan's image abroad," the minister pointed out.

Earlier reports said that fears of a war in the Gulf and the continued massing of troops in Saudi Arabia had made most tour operators cancel bookings to Jordan, killing earlier hopes for a tourism boom.

The reports also said that tourism in Aqaba, which is mostly a winter resort, has slumped and the port was handling only one quarter of the usual business.

Tourists from Jordan and abroad, including Finnish groups, normally crowd the shores of Aqaba between October and April, but the present Gulf situation is seen by observers as "the cause of a major setback for the

tourism season this year."

In March this year Kabariti announced the formation of a Tourism Development Council to focus on the private sector in activating the tourism industry in Jordan.

The council, grouping owners and managers of hotels and travel and tourism agents as well as Royal Jordanian (RJ) was set to draw contributions from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to finance its activities. So far nothing has been reported about these activities.

Meanwhile Ministry of Tourism sources revealed that 651,531 tourists of different nationalities had visited Jordan in 1989 and the total estimated revenues from tourism exceeded JD 314 million. Quoted by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, the sources said that the ministry expected 842,000 tourists to come to Jordan during 1990, despite the current crisis, and revenues to amount to JD 425 million.

The agreement was reached in talks held in Baghdad by teams from the two countries which decided to form technical sub-committees to meet periodically for an exchange of information and expertise related to the pastures and wildlife zones.

Dr. Mohammad Shakhatreh, director of the Hammam basin project, led the Jordanian team to the Baghdad talks which ended Tuesday evening.

He said that the joint scheme was designed to increase pasture lands and consequently boost the livestock wealth of Iraq and Jordan.

Stockbreeders will be allowed six months, not three, to take their sheep for grazing in the pasture lands to be created under the new plan, and animals will be allowed to wander for grazing

materially," he said.

New desert camps and increased capacity in existing ones were planned while stocks of food, tents and blankets were being established in Cyprus.

UNDRO officials said 5,680 tonnes of rice, 568 tonnes of wheat flour, 1,600 tonnes of vegetable oil and 3,000 tents had already been ferried to the island.

Shakhatreh said that Jordanian firms had already drilled more than six artesian wells for the benefit of the local population and their animals.

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan and Iraq have agreed to set up joint pastures at the Hammam basin, a semi-desert region divided among Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Syria near their common borders, and to extend periods allowed for grazing to encourage stockbreeders boost their production.

The agreement was reached in talks held in Baghdad by teams from the two countries which decided to form technical sub-committees to meet periodically for an exchange of information and expertise related to the pastures and wildlife zones.

According to Shakhatreh, Jordan and Iraq are bound by a 1984 agreement which provides for mutual exploitation of land and water resources at the common border areas.

The Ministry of Agriculture, which is in charge of developing the region, last May signed agreements with local Jordanian firms, worth more than JD 500,000, to carry out development schemes to be implemented in Ruweisheit region.

Shakhatreh said that Jordanian firms had already drilled more than six artesian wells for the benefit of the local population and their animals.

World Food Programme provides additional food aid

AMMAN (J.T.) — In response to the request of the government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the appeal of the United Nations Disaster Relief Office to the international community to provide additional emergency food aid for the evacuees, and upon recommendation by the World Food Programme (WFP) executive director, James Ingram, U.N. World Food Programme will provide additional emergency food aid. The quantities of food are based on 12,000 evacuees per day for ninety days plus one month supplies as contingency/buffer stock to meet any unexpected large flow of the evacuees.

The total cost of the initial amount of food assistance since the start of the arrival of the evacuees in Jordan plus the additional new amount is about \$4.4 million. It comprises, 4320 tonnes of wheat flour, 4,320 tonnes of rice, 432 tonnes of vegetable oil, 216 tonnes of oilseeds, 216 tonnes of canned fish, 216 tonnes of canned meat and 108 tonnes of sugar and includes the cost of external

A part of the amount, a total of \$1.7 million, was made available by the German government for the repatriation of evacuees from the Gulf region. This amount encompasses food aid, air shuttle Amman-Cairo (29 flights, 4,900 passengers) and cash aid for immediate relief to be granted to various non-governmental organisations.

The German Red Cross has delivered a \$380,000 aid.

About 15 staff members of the German Red Cross are currently working in Jordan, most of them in the camp of the International Red Cross in Azraq.

It may be noted that the total German contribution in support of Jordan's humanitarian efforts of handling the evacuees problem, amounts to \$4.8 million.

In case of a further increase in the number of refugees coming through Jordan the Federal Republic of Germany is considering additional aid.

W. Germany contributes additional relief aid

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Federal Republic of Germany decided to contribute an additional amount of \$3.1 million to the UNDRO/IOM operations in Jordan. This amount shall support the relief flights organised by UNDRO in cooperation with IOM aimed at transporting Asian citizens coming from the Gulf region back to their home countries.

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HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

House emergency committee meets Saturday

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Lower House of Parliament's emergency committee has scheduled a meeting on Saturday evening. The committee, which was formed following the outbreak of the Gulf crisis on Aug. 2, is entrusted with following up developments in the Gulf crisis and reporting to Parliament members about the situation.

Head of Court of Appeals dies

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday asked Minister of Justice Yousef Al Mbeideen to take part in Mazar Mihyar's funeral. The head of the Amman Court of Appeals, who died in Amman, had been employed by the Ministry of Justice as a judge since 1959 and his last post was head of the Court of Appeals, which he assumed in December 1988.

15,697 cross into Jordan Tuesday

AMMAN (Petra) — The total number of arrivals across border posts with Iraq Tuesday was 15,697, including, 7,852 non-Arab nationals, according to a statement by the Public Security Department (PSD). It said that those leaving Jordan Tuesday totalled 15,919, of whom 6,572 were non-Arabs. A spokesman for the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) said that Arab and non-Arab expatriates leaving Jordan Tuesday were 8,080 aboard 33 unchartered flights.

Japanese planes bring relief supplies

AMMAN (Petra) — Two Japanese Airways planes carrying relief supplies to Asian evacuees coming from Iraq and Kuwait to Jordan arrived in Amman Wednesday. The relief supplies include foodstuff and blankets. The two planes departed the same day from Queen Alia International Airport carrying 600 Filipinos home. The Japanese government has allocated \$12 million to help repatriate Asian evacuees to their countries.

Amman-Damascus train in depot for 2 weeks

AMMAN (Petra) — Trains commuting between Amman and Damascus will stop temporarily as of Oct. 4 and until Oct. 19, according to an official statement here Wednesday. The statement issued by the Hijaz Railway, which operates the trains, said that the stoppage was due to construction work on a bridge being built near the railway inside Syrian territory, between Naseeb and Deraa rail stations.

PLO leader leaves after talks with Crown Prince

Abdul Baqi Jammo, Minister of Culture Khaled Al Karaki and the Palestinian Ambassador in Amman Al Tayeb Abdul Rahim.

Arafat's visit to Jordan followed a visit to Iraq during which he met Iraqi President Saddam Hussein. After talks with Saddam Hussein Arafat expressed optimism over reaching a peaceful settlement for the crisis in the Gulf.

U.N. envoy pledges to pursue efforts to help Gulf evacuees

AMMAN (R) — U.N. envoy Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, who fears aid workers could be swamped if war breaks out in the Gulf, plans to visit Iran, Turkey and Syria soon to ensure they can cope with any fresh exodus of refugees.

A U.N. relief official said that Prince Sadruddin, who left Amman for Geneva on Wednesday, would also be working out the cost of any new relief effort during his tour which may also take him to Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

"He is planning to visit all countries which have an influx problem or a potential problem," said the official, who declined to be named. These would definitely include Turkey and Syria, which have both accepted tens of thousands of refugees fleeing Iraq and occupied Kuwait.

"He wants to make sure we

have enough tents, food and above all, transport and to put some price tags on this," he said.

The International Organisation for Migration, organising an airlift out of Jordan, has taken options on future flights.

The prince also wants to go to Iraq, where between 250,000 and 300,000 refugees are waiting to leave, but Baghdad says he is not welcome.

U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar has appealed to Iraq to reverse its stance but the official said nothing had been heard from Baghdad so far.

Prince Sadruddin had just spent three days touring refugee camps and talking to officials in Jordan, which has had to cope with half a million refugees, mostly Arabs and Asians, who fled after Iraq's August 2 invasion of Kuwait.

"He said that the two factories had chartered planes to sell products worth JD 6 million in 1991, rising to JD 8 million in 1992.

"As all the basic infrastructure has been laid JIEC is now processing applications by investors to pave the way for their commencement of operations," Subheimat said.

A biscuit factory employing 50 workers started production, with 25 per cent of it exported to Arab countries. A factory producing chemical detergents is expected to start production in the coming three months, with almost all the production going to foreign countries, particularly to the Soviet Union. Subheimat said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Wednesday.

Both the biscuit factory, which has a capital of JD 300,000, and the detergent plant, with a JD 700,000 capital, employ only Jordanian workers and engineers, Subheimat said.

Economist urges compensations for sanctions losses

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan is totally committed to the implementation of U.N. Security Council resolutions imposing sanctions on trade and dealings with Iraq, and is losing hundreds of millions of dinar as a result, but the Kingdom hopes that the Arab Gulf countries will understand Jordan's difficult situation and, together with the world community, will provide compensation to the country. Jordanian economist Jawad Al Anani said in a television programme presented Wednesday.

Jordan, he said, is losing trade since it will no longer export anything to Iraq or Kuwait as long as the sanctions last, and is now losing money remittances from Jordanians working in Kuwait.

According to Al Anani, Jordan's services to Kuwait and Iraq in 1988 amounted to JD 300 million, rising to JD 380 million in 1989 and could have reached JD 400 million according to estimates.

In 1988 Jordan exported goods to Iraq and Kuwait worth JD 74 million, rising to JD 140 million in 1989 and was expected to reach JD 280 million during this year.

In addition to that, Jordan is now deprived of nearly JD 400 million in money transfers from Jordanian expatriates working in Kuwait and the Gulf region, Al Anani said.

"The sanctions imposed on Iraq are adversely affecting Jordan's trade with other countries, since all ships carrying goods to Jordan are either turned away to unload at other ports or searched thoroughly or turned away completely," Al Anani added.

He said that Jordan had 8,000 lorries worth JD 250 million, 40 per cent of which are now lying idle since most operations were conducted between Aqaba and Iraqi destinations.

"In addition, 7,000 workers at Aqaba Port could be laid off as work at the port has been drastically reduced," Al Anani added. He said that Jordan is now rendered unable to compete with other countries exporting phosphate, potash, cement and fertiliser because of the additional cost of insurance on maritime transport.

The meeting was chaired by Fakhri Bilbeisi, head of the societies' union in the Amman area, who said in a statement later that the meeting had discussed the formation of specialised committees to supervise activities related to the provision of assistance in cooperating with the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS).

Bilbeisi said the meeting had decided to set up an operation's room for the societies' activities in Amman.

According to Bilbeisi, there are 176 charitable societies operating in the Amman region.

Charitable societies discuss coordination

AMMAN (Petra) — Heads of charitable societies operating within the Amman region held a general meeting Wednesday to review coordination among these societies in providing assistance to needy groups in Jordan under the present difficult circumstances.

The meeting was chaired by Fakhri Bilbeisi, head of the societies' union in the Amman area, who said in a statement later that the meeting had discussed the formation of specialised committees to supervise activities related to the provision of assistance in cooperating with the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS).

The charitable societies, he

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

★ Open studio and workshop for artist Samia Zarni displaying paintings, sculptures and hand-painted fabrics. Location: off 2nd Circle, opposite Rosenthal (9:30-1:30 and 3:30-6:30).
★ Art exhibition by Mohammad Nasrullah at the Royal Cultural Centre.
★ Archaeological exhibition entitled "Al Lajjun — a Roman Frontier Fort" at the Department of Antiquities' Registration and Research Centre, Jabal Amman.

FILM

★ Feature film entitled "The Man who Shot Liberty Valance" at the American Centre — 7:00 p.m.

Kuwait

(Continued from page 1)

Experts
"Kuwaiti snipers are singling out Iraqi officers and supply vehicles, particularly water trucks," one military source said. "In a number of recent incidents anti-Iraqi saboteurs have rolled hand grenades under the trucks to pierce their skin and drain their water."

Water supplies would be critical if war erupted in the Gulf between Iraqi forces reported to number more than 360,000

Jordan Times

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Old habits die hard

WHEN FORMER U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz was making one of his rounds in the Middle East before he retired, he came to Jordan with a thick file. His dossier contained press clippings in which Jordanian columnists and writers, mainly from the Jordan Times, had heavily criticised U.S. policies in the area, invariably accusing the Reagan administration of bias towards Israel in its handling of the Palestinian problem.

Shultz, being the great democrat he is (actually Shultz is a Republican who has called for legalising the use of drugs in the U.S.), at the time thought or conveyed the impression that the government of Jordan was behind or responsible for the criticism by the Jordanian press of American positions on the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The government in office at the time, we are now told, tried in vain to convince the secretary of state that what the columnists wrote was their opinion and that Jordan was more than willing and ready to accept U.S. leadership in the quest for peace in the Middle East.

In those days, Jordan was not exactly a democracy and various governments did have their daily problems with the media, but especially the daily newspapers which have mainly been independently owned and operated. Those governments did often try to exert control on the press, but it was always a tug-of-war between the authorities and the journalists.

The picture has changed considerably since last November, when free and democratic parliamentary elections were held for the first time in decades. But convincing people that Jordan's four dailies are truly independent remains a difficult problem.

We, in the Jordan Times, resent it when fellow journalists, especially international colleagues, describe us as a government mouthpiece. It is true that all of us care deeply for the interests and well-being of the state, but it is equally true that we are no more influenced by our government than most if not all world journalists are influenced by their own governments.

The issue here is not so much us. We have learned to take in criticism as it comes. The problem lies with those who will not accept that Jordan is serious about its democracy taking hold in our society at all levels.

Take for example what two American officials said on Monday. Assistant Secretary of State for the Middle East John Kelly and State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler both lashed out at Jordan for hosting the pan-Arab peoples' conference that ended in Amman on Monday.

Calling the meeting "radical" and describing delegates as representatives of "terrorist" groups, the two officials were insinuating that the government of Jordan was responsible for and should have muzzled whatever the participants had to say.

Forgotten, ignored or overlooked in the American bargain is the fact that the conference was called and organised not by Jordan but by an alliance of political groups in the Kingdom. And then whoever said what at the meeting is not Jordan's responsibility, for everybody is responsible for what he or she says and everyone has the freedom to speak. Thirdly, instead of blasting Jordan for what the Americans had heard from a conference held here, U.S. officials would do a better job if they devoted more time and effort to understanding and assessing the true sentiments and feelings of the Arab masses whom the delegates represented and reflected in their three-day meeting in Amman.

To the Americans, old habits seem to die hard. That should pose no problem to us, except that what they are talking about there involves us, and it is nonsense.

Incidentally, this is not Jordan's response to the State Department's dismay with the Kingdom's hosting of the "radical" conference. If anyone needs a reminder, this is the Jordan Times' editorial for Thursday, Sept. 20, 1990.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

U.S. Air Commander General Michael Dugan has been dismissed from his post for disclosing details about a massive American air strike on Baghdad when war breaks out, said Al Ra'i daily Wednesday. But the American general's views simply reflect ideas of scores of other American generals who are indignant to see Washington reluctant to launch attack, the paper said. Of course the Iraqis are not sitting idle, and the residents of the Iraqi capital do not expect U.S. war planes to bring them roses, since they realise that it is the Iraqi military might which the U.S.-Western alliance wants to target in the event of war, the paper continued. Those who have been urging Washington to opt for a military action in the Gulf, including the big and the small allies, can only be satisfied when they see Iraq's military power destroyed for good and the American hegemony imposed on the Arab nation, said the paper. These allies see in the talk about a political settlement as a means of dashing away their hopes, and therefore, they tend to oppose such ideas and continue to urge Washington to take military action, the paper added. But it said that should the United States start a war on Iraq, the millions of Arabs and Muslims will seize this opportunity to settle old scores with the West and with the enemies of the Arab nation.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily thanks the Ministry of Health for openly announcing the discovery of three cases of cholera among the evacuees, thus reassuring the public that everything was under control. Salah Abdal Samad says that the announcement is bound to put an end to all rumours about the health situation in the evacuee camps, and to reassure everyone that the ministry's teams were doing all they can to prevent an outbreak of the disease through continuous inspections and medical treatment. The writer warns the members of the public against mixing with the evacuees because of the fear that they might be carrying cholera viruses and not as a way of discriminating against these people.

People would rather starve than accept humiliation

Iraqis feel impact of sanctions but vow never to bend

By Wafa Amr

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Iraq is beginning to feel the impact of economic sanctions, but residents of the capital say they're determined to resist outside pressure.

Some businesses have closed, food prices have soared and goods are in short supply. But people rarely complain. Grumbling is frowned upon by the Iraqi government.

Bread, powdered milk, sugar, rice, macaroni, chicken and rice are in short supply. Other food is available, but prices have skyrocketed since the United Nations imposed the trade sanctions Aug. 6.

The sanctions were imposed to force President Saddam Hussein to withdraw the troops he sent to Kuwait Aug. 2 to take over the oil-rich Gulf state.

"The west believes we will kneel to their will when they impose sanctions against us. But we have stored for all our needs," said Salwa Bayati, a mother of two who chatted

with neighbours over morning coffee last week.

The coffee was served without sugar, which was in short supply even before the trade embargo.

Iraqi housewives commonly keep household food storerooms full and refrigerators stocked, a habit developed during the eight-year war with Iran.

"We are out of bread today," said a waiter in one of Baghdad's finer restaurants. They were also out of rice. If a customer wanted tea or coffee, he drank it black.

In a Baghdad hospital, a doctor said some operations were being postponed and only emergency cases were treated because surgery thread, alcohol and other medical items are in short supply.

Tarki Al Sukooti, a leader of the accountants and auditors union, said Iraqi people support their president because they believe he is doing the right thing. He said Westerners don't understand the Arab mentality.

"Iraqi people would rather starve than accept humiliation," he said.

Elsewhere in Baghdad, life appears the same for the most part, if more difficult.

Throughout the city, people lined up in long queues outside bakery shops to get the daily ration of bread. Loaves are smaller in size and people have stopped eating white bread.

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Fears that Kashmir will erupt into war ease

By Jacqueline Frank
Reuter

WASHINGTON — India and Pakistan, dangerously close to war this summer, are entering a cooling-off phase that could keep their troops apart through the winter, according to U.S. officials for International Peace, private and

national explosion appears to have receded, partly as a result of timely intervention by (U.S. de-

puty National security adviser Robert) Gates in Islamabad and subsequently by Soviet diplomats in New Delhi," said Selig Harrison of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, private and

national tank.

India and Pakistan have fought two of their three wars over Kashmir since gaining independence from Britain in 1947. Concern in Moscow and Washington that another war could erupt was deepened by fears that both India and Pakistan could have access to nuclear weapons.

Washington has traditionally had closer ties with Pakistan, while Moscow enjoys warm relations with India. The two superpowers both sought to have the Kashmiri problem resolved in talks involving the United Nations.

One U.S. official, who asked not to be named, said the presence of weak governments in

both India and Pakistan has helped lessen the threat of war.

"I think we're seeing a lessening in tensions as both countries are distracted by other things," he said.

Pakistan is struggling to remak

its government after the August 6, ouster of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and the dissolution of the national assembly by President Ghulam Ishaq Khan. New elections are to take place October 24.

The analysts also note that Pakistan has sent troops to the Gulf, making it not a good time to face India in action in Kashmir.

Although they say the threat of imminent war appears to have receded, the analysts see little chance of an early end to violence in Kashmir.

India has poured at least 25,000 paramilitary police into the Kashmir valley to quell the revolt by the Kashmiri separatists. Kashmiri Muslims accuse them of murder, rape and burning homes.

Peace efforts to solve Cambodia's civil war face more difficulties

By Kevin Cooney
Reuters

BANGKOK — The acrimonious collapse of Cambodian peace talks here on Wednesday could seriously delay international efforts to rescue that benighted country from its decade of civil war.

Even as officials of the Phnom Penh government and the three guerrilla groups allied against it prepared their last accusatory statements and Thai diplomats frantically tried to persuade them to issue a face-saving bland communique, the attention of delegates and diplomats shifted to Paris.

On Monday, the French government said it was willing, on short notice, to act as host for yet another major peace conference that would involve the superpowers, regional powers and the Cambodian belligerents.

"The only way to make progress is for the United Nations to come in," a senior Klem Rouge official said. "The U.N. will get involved again at the Paris conference. The sooner we get to its seats to the former monarch."

The conference never really got any further.

By Wednesday the hopes delegates had expressed for progress looked as battered as the newly-laid lawn around the abandoned Cambodian embassy which had been trampled on by a hundred journalists as they waited for a word of peace to come out of Monday's meeting.

Delegates from both sides had said they hoped the Supreme National Council would send a unified delegation to represent Cambodia at the United Nations General Assembly in New York. There was even talk of a ceasefire.

"Some new element is going to have to be introduced. No way

are the French going to host a meeting that is doomed to fail."

"We have been quite willing to reconvene in Paris at any time," a French diplomat said. "But what has happened in Bangkok may well influence that position."

The Supreme National Council, agreed upon last week in Jakarta under pressure from the factions' superpower sponsors, even failed to agree on how to seat Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the guerrilla alliance leader, as chairman.

Before the conference began all sides had agreed to give Sihanouk the job as head of the council, where power is evenly divided between the Phnom Penh government and the guerrillas with six votes apiece.

On Monday as the conference opened, Hun Sen, the Phnom Penh prime minister, refused to give in to guerrilla demands that Sihanouk take a 13th seat. He wanted the alliance to give one of its seats to the former monarch.

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"Some new element is going to have to be introduced. No way

U.S. crisis myopia: Oil or Israel

By Izzat Dajani

"IRAQ is a major power in the region. This power carries responsibility with it." These were not the words of an Iraqi, a Jordanian or any ally of Iraq. This was rather a statement made by John Kelly, assistant U.S. secretary of state to Congress on July 31, 1990. Barely 48 hours later, on August 2, the U.S. denounced Iraq as an irresponsible and its president as "public enemy" number one, like many of his predecessors that did not conform to American interests and policies.

The United States took the lead in massing international support against Iraq's takeover of Kuwait. It exerted full pressure to secure unanimous Security Council resolutions to impose a complete embargo on Iraq and freeze all Iraqi and Kuwaiti assets. It is worthy to note that the Soviet Union and China, supposedly "friends" of the Arabs, failed to even abstain from endorsing the Security Council resolutions.

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Jordan Times WEEKENDER

Published Every Thursday

Sept. 20 1990 A

New world opens to Soviet students

By Marc Aubert

Editor's Note: The writer is a 24-year-old student from Switzerland who is studying at New York University and recently participated in a three-week study tour organised by the University of Pennsylvania to promote contacts with Soviet students.

LENINIGRAD, USSR — If International Relations in the expectation run high in the State Committee for Public Education. Allowing students an objective study of history and foreign political systems would have been unthinkable until recently. "I used to teach my own son the history he wasn't getting at school," admits the 45-year-old official.

The Soviet leader himself has proclaimed that a total restructuring of the educational system is vital for the success of perestroika, and the students are waiting. In the meantime many say they are disappointed by the slow pace of change. With their future at stake, some have begun to organise and put forward demands.

"Work, work, work" — Lenin's favourite motto that adorns the entrance of most educational buildings rings hollow as a sense of unrest pervades schools and universities. Some things have changed already. Until 1985 Communist indoctrination accounted for 17 per cent of the school curriculum, but since perestroika, the Marxist-Leninist doctrine has become obsolete. Worse still, old school books actually contradict the leadership's current liberalisation policy, which led the State Committee on Public Education, the highest education authority, to abolish the mandatory examination in world history.

A programme designed to present facts instead of doctrine was introduced: It gives students a new version of international and pre-revolutionary Russian history. "We want our students to undertake a comparative study (of history). We don't want any more dogmatic, parrot-fashion learning in praise of the party," declares Mikhail Slepov, deputy director of

students from Leningrad University were sent to California to improve their English. But fellow students complain of favouritism in the selection process to go abroad. "It wasn't fair. The two students weren't chosen for their academic performance, they were selected because their fathers are influential members of the party," says 24-year-old Vladimir Shoolko, who also studies English.

But, he adds: "This won't happen again. Now the students have a say in choosing who will be selected to study abroad." Shoolko is a representative of the Komsomol, the Communist Party's youth organisation.

Meanwhile, Soviet universities have begun to upgrade their facilities in order to receive the foreign students involved in the exchange programmes. Already, about 30 American students who are learning Russian completed the January-June semester at the linguistics department of Leningrad University.

In what is seen as a significant gesture towards giving regions a certain amount of cultural and linguistic autonomy, 500 school children in the north of the country, will soon receive school books issued by the state in their own language.

The changes in the education system are also destined to open the outside world to Soviet students. Until 1985, no Soviet youth could even dream of leaving the country to study abroad. In 1989 that dream became a reality for 450 Soviet students who took part in exchange programmes with the U.S. and other countries. Some stayed for only two weeks, others for a full year. By 1992, 1,000 students will be able to study abroad.

Last summer, two female

students to improve living conditions. Alex Konopelko, an English language student at Leningrad University, complains that his lodgings are rundown and have neither hot water nor heating, but he has some cause for satisfaction: "At least we now have the right to choose our roommates and we no longer have people imposed on us. Now I can finally share my room with my wife and my 9-year-old son," he says.

To marry as he did at 22 is not uncommon in the Soviet Union. Many students say that they need the companionship, trust and intimacy provided by marriage as an antidote to a restrictive society. On the minus side, married life often proves very difficult. Like most Soviet people, Konopelko says he had no access to effective contraception, and few are those who can raise children on the 50 roubles (less than \$10) allocated to couples as state support. Young couples are often forced to have their parents care for the grandchildren.

Also in the works is a project launched by the State Committee for Public Education to encourage exchanges between Soviet and foreign university professors. Foreign specialists are being called upon to help in areas that until now had no place in the Soviet education system.

The thirst for change has brought disaffection for the Komsomol. Five years ago, membership was a prerequisite for anyone wishing to study at university. Today 85 per cent of the 15,000 students at Leningrad University have tossed away their membership cards. As representative of the organisation, Shoolko's job used to be to attend Communist Party conferences, distribute propaganda leaflets and chase up Komsomol members who were behind on paying their membership fee.

To most students these changes fall short of the promises for sweeping reform. Anxious to move ahead, about a year ago they set up a student council to present student demands to the authorities. One of the council's achievements



A representative of the Communist youth organisation, Vladimir Shoolko, sees a new role for himself as students make themselves heard.

years ago.

Says fellow student Konopelko: "In the Soviet Union, in order to gain the right to a university education, regardless of the school, one had to be a good Communist first and foremost. I have to take four examinations on different aspects of the Communist doctrine to be accepted into the following year of my studies." Students at Leningrad University have battled against the system and have managed to do away with the military ideology course which they are no longer obliged to attend. However, they still have to sit the annual examination.

Students are also asking for the right to study what they want. For example, the few who get top marks in the university entrance exam are allowed to study the language of their choice. The rest have to take state-imposed courses, as is the case for Dimitri Voleg, 27, who is studying Portuguese.

What happens after university is another hotly debated issue. Now, a graduate who has passed the necessary exams must work for three years in an institution selected by the state before he actually

receives a university diploma. Quite often, the imposed job has no connection with what the youth has studied. A language graduate can well end up on an assembly line in a factory.

Restrictions of movement are also a block to young people's careers. They cannot live and work where they choose. Witness the case of Shoolko whose ambition is to become an English-Russian interpreter. He is from a small town 2,000 kilometres away from Leningrad that offers few employment opportunities, yet the law dictates that he live where he was born, unless he can obtain a special authorisation. "I am going to have to get a divorce and then marry a woman from Leningrad in order to get the necessary papers so I can stay and work here," he says, "but I don't want to abandon my wife and 2-year-old daughter. So I will have to divorce again in order to re-marry the woman I love."

The students are proud of having made some inroads into the system that dominates their lives, and it encourages them to continue asking for more world — World News Link.

World's best preserved prehistoric sanctuary saved from destruction

By Hanns Neuerbourg
The Associated Press

MONTIGNAC, France — Young adventurers in search of treasure 50 years ago Wednesday stumbled onto an Aladdin's cave of prehistoric art.

It took him years to compile an inventory of the more than 1,000 paintings, drawings and engravings of bisons, horses, stags, hinds, ibexes and other animals often pierced by arrows or lances.

One puzzling mural depicts a mortally wounded bison seemingly butting a fallen nude male hunter. A pole topped by a bird's head also is part of the scene. Scientists say the cave was never inhabited but must have served as a centre for magic rites designed to induce success in hunting.

Lascaux was discovered by the tourist industry following its opening to the public in 1948. It became a popular destination for travelers from all over the world. Visitors reached a peak of 125,000 in 1962.

A team of scientists using modern technology repaired the damage, ensuring the survival of one of man's earliest masterpieces.

Art was hardly on the minds of the four boys, aged 15 to 18, when they roamed the dense forest above the Vezere River on Sept. 12, 1940, on a day off from school. Legend had it there was a secret underground passage extending into the hill from a little chateau at its foot.

"Like all children, we thought, of course, that a treasure was hidden there," Simon Coencas, the youngest of the four, recalled in an interview.

"That day three of us were again in the forest. Then a fourth buddy, Marcel Ravidat, showed up."

"I think I have discovered the underground passage," he told us. "There is a hole in the ground and I think that's it."

The hole was barely 80 centimetres wide and deep. But pebbles the boys dropped through a small opening at the bottom indicated it went deeper.

"So we made the hole wider," continued Coencas, now 65 and an industrialist living near Paris. "But no one wanted to go down first, except Marcel, the oldest and a real daredevil. We followed after he shouted that he was in a cave."

They landed in the main cavern, which has since become known as the "hall of the bulls" for the huge red, brown and black paintings of bisons that dominate the murals. The boys were awestruck by what they saw on the white limestone walls in the flicker of their petroleum lamp.

"It was marvelous," Coencas recalled. "Something one had never seen. It was like a dream."

They returned with their schoolteacher, who informed authorities.

One of the first visitors to hurry to the cave was Henri Breuil, a Catholic priest and renowned archeological expert, who called it "a prehistoric Sistine Chapel." He marveled at the exciting colour combinations created with simple materials such as ochre, iron oxides, and carbon, mixed with animal fat, bone marrow or blood.

Breuil swiftly authenticated the paintings and engravings and three months later the cave was declared a national monument.

"But to keep it in good health we have to apply strict rules for its protection," he added in an interview.

The temperature inside is kept at a constant 12.5 Celsius (54.5 Fahrenheit). More than 50 control instruments also measure air pressure and humidity and warn of other changes affecting the natural balance that existed in the 150-metre long cave before its discovery.

Since 1963, access to the cave has been limited to five visitors a day on five days per week, chiefly scientists and other holders of special passes. Their shoes are treated with an antibacterial liquid so there is no relapse of the "biological threat."

International demand for passes is so heavy that handling correspondence is a full-time job for one of Rigaud's staffers. Some scientists apply two years in advance.

A replica of the main cavern constructed about 200 metres from the original, has become a new tourist attraction since its completion in 1983. Up to 2,000 visitors a day admire the reproduction of the "hall of the bulls."

"It's a good thing," Rigaud said. "It gives quite a precise idea of what they would see in the original."

Thoughts for this week

No mind is thoroughly well organised that is deficient in a sense of humour

— Samuel Taylor Coleridge, English poet (1772-1834).

Men hate those to whom they have to lie

— Victor Hugo, French writer (1802-1885).

Think wrongly, if you please. But in all cases think for yourself

— Gotthold Lessing, German dramatist-critic (1729-1781).

Genius is one per cent inspiration and 99 per cent perspiration

— Thomas A. Edison, U.S. inventor (1847-1931).

The rotten apple spoils his companion

— Benjamin Franklin, U.S. statesman (1706-1790).

War And Peace boosts fortunes of Seattle Opera

By Tim Klass

The Associated Press

SEATTLE — No longer is the Seattle Opera merely a ring. Its emerging maturity was established by this summer's "war and peace," which general Director Speight Jenkins said enjoyed the best ticket sales in the company's 27-year history.

The \$2.2-million production of Sergei Prokofiev's rarely performed work showed that the company, known for its ring cycles, could rise to any operatic challenge.

High praise was drawn by the lighting of Neil Peter Jampolis, 573 costumes by Bruno Schwengel and the opera's set, based on a room at the Hermitage in Leningrad.

Still, noted Jenkins, there were "more reviews and enthusiastic reviews" for *Der Ring des Nibelungen*.

Russian baritone gains success after slow start

By Tim Klass

The Associated Press

SEATTLE — Baritone Vladimir Chernov has gone from bit parts at the Kirov Opera to top roles around the world in barely two years.

In the Seattle Opera's Soviet-U.S. production of *War and Peace*, July 22-Aug. 7, his rendition of Andrei Bolkonsky drew standing ovations and nearly unanimous critical acclaim.

Richard Wagner's four-part *operatic Tour de Force* that was performed annually from 1975 to 1987, the longest run outside the composer's home town of Bayreuth, Germany.

It was for *Das Rheingold*, *Die Walkure*, *Siegfried*, and *Gotterdamerung* that the Seattle Opera was proclaimed America's leading Wagnerian Opera company" by Wagner himself.

The best gate for the ring was 86 per cent of capacity in 1987.

Before the opening of *War and Peace* as part of the Goodwill Games Arts Festival on July 22, Jenkins said he'd be thrilled if sales surpassed 90 per cent. Tickets for the eight performances were so fast that for the first time in the company's 27-year history, it will be about every four years, starting in 1991.

The thing that first got us off the ring-only Opera company reputation was *'Orfeo et Euridice'*, a new production of the ancient Orpheus legend in French in January 1988, Jenkins said.

Of the company's six productions last year, four were

taped for high-definition television, a new technology offering much closer detail and greater depth of field than standard television.

Overall, ticket buyers came from at least 48 states and seven foreign countries, said Marketing Director Jim Bailey.

It took Prokofiev roughly three times longer to complete his sprawling *Opera* — and get it past Joseph Stalin's censor — than Leo Tolstoy to write his epic novel of the shifting fortunes of five families during the war in which Russia defeated Napoleon's forces in 1812.

Even with half an hour of cuts, the production was the most complete ever mounted in the United States, lasting four hours with one intermission. There were nearly three dozen singers in 69 roles, an 80-member chorus, more than 100 supernumeraries and 80

musicians.

The cast included Soviet and U.S. singers. Bolshoi Opera Conductor Mark Ermler directed the Seattle Symphony Orchestra.

Heightening the stakes was a \$750,000 deficit for the year ending June 30, the Seattle Opera's first red ink in five years, including about \$200,000 from "Meistersinger," Jenkins said.

"Everyone is a gambler" in this business, I guess," he said. "If you're going to do this kind of *Opera*, you have to take some risks."

The risk paid off. Ticket sales covered about 50 per cent of the cost, an unusually high proportion, and *War and Peace* will register no more than a modest loss if \$250,000 in donations is raised by Dec. 31.

In U.S. Opera, especially outside New York, production deficits are the rule even

for sell-outs. "We try to make it up in general contributions," Jenkins said. "Money follows success. That's true in any arts business."

The artistic risk and reward were at least as great.

"Prokofiev has been handsomely served," Allan Ulrich wrote in the San Francisco Examiner.

The production "strongly underlined the work's strengths and did much to make its clumsy scenes tolerable... (with) a flowing continuity not inherent in the score's scenes-from-Tolstoy form," wrote Don Henahan in the New York Times.

What's next, after the ring next summer?

"I know exactly what's coming. I'm just not prepared to announce it yet," Jenkins said. But "Aida" was not a bad guess, he said.

He makes his debut at La Scala in Milan, Italy, on the opening night of the 1991-1992 season and returns to Seattle for Barber of Seville in

1992 and Eugene Onegin in 1994.

Chernov is a prime candidate to become a leading baritone, Jenkins said.

"Yes, no questions, if the companies will be sensitive to the fact that he is still a lyric singer who needs some time to move into the heavier roles," Jenkins said. "To my mind, Vladimir has a lyric tone... wonderful for the lighter Verdi roles... anything bel canto."

He sings with an Italian brightness in contrast with the "very dark, woody timbre" of Andrei Bolkonsky.

JTV CHANNEL 2 WEEKLY PREVIEW

Thursday Sept. 20

9:10 Pride and Prejudice
Marriage plots continue unabated. Sharlotte is taken, Elizabeth turns down an offer of marriage and life continues as usual.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Movie of the Week
Half Slave Half Free
Starring: Mason Adams
Blat is an energetic and ambitious black man. He gets abducted in New York and is sold as a slave down South but his soul always yearns for freedom.

Friday, Sept. 21

9:1 Midnight Caller
The kid Ethan was the cause of his father's death. Jack wants to help him out of this ordeal but Ethans' mother makes things difficult for all concerned.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Tonamara
Johnny marries Irene because he got her pregnant and

he hasn't heard from Julie in a long time but Julie shows up...and war in Europe breaks out.

Saturday Sept. 22

9:00 Encounter

9:30 Classical Music

10:00 News In English

10:20 Feature Film

The Honorable Thief
Starring: Charles Bronson
Alain Delon

Two friends are involved in an armed robbery. Both are in it for different reasons and this doesn't help matters at all.

Sunday, Sept. 23

9:10 Documentary
The Four Horsemen

The superpowers manufacture sophisticated military hardware and since the third World markets are the obvious target, armed conflicts

there are inevitable.

Tuesday, Sept. 25

10:00 News In English
10:20 Thin Air
Rachel discovers some interesting things about the company's boss. She brings the information to the radio station but it does not get aired.

Monday, Sept. 24

9:10 Murder She Wrote

The old husband gives his wife an Indian ruby necklace, one that brings bad luck. Sure enough the husband gets killed. Will Jessica consider the cursed ruby when she begins her investigation?

Wednesday, Sept. 26

9:10 Documentary

Economic Perspective

10:20 Feature Film

The Last Enemy

Starring: Johnny Thaw

Kevin Whately

A mysterious murder is committed and every time the inspector suspects someone, that person gets murdered. Dr. Alex's services are summoned. Alex does good job on that.

This week in History

Saturday, Sept. 22

Sunday, Sept. 23

agreement on framework for peace with Israel.

1872 - Spain signs treaty with Britain to end slave trade.

1914 - Dusseldorf is target of first British air command in Germany in World War I.

1915 - United Nations forces capture "Heartbreak Ridge" in Korea from Communists.

1945 - Britain and France submit Suez Canal dispute to U.N. Security Council.

1978 - Egypt's President Anwar Sadat returns home to hero's welcome after Camp David summit that resulted in

days in orbit around Earth.

1976 - Proposal for eventual black rule in Rhodesia is accepted by Rhodesia's Prime Minister Ian Smith in broadcast to his nation.

1988 - Rival governments threaten Lebanon with formal partition.

Tuesday, Sept. 25

1972 - Japan's Premier Kakuei Tanaka arrives in Beijing, becoming first Japanese premier to set foot in China since World War II.

1988 - Lawlessness persists in Burma, and security forces totally wound 12 people and injure 5 others in capital of Rangoon.

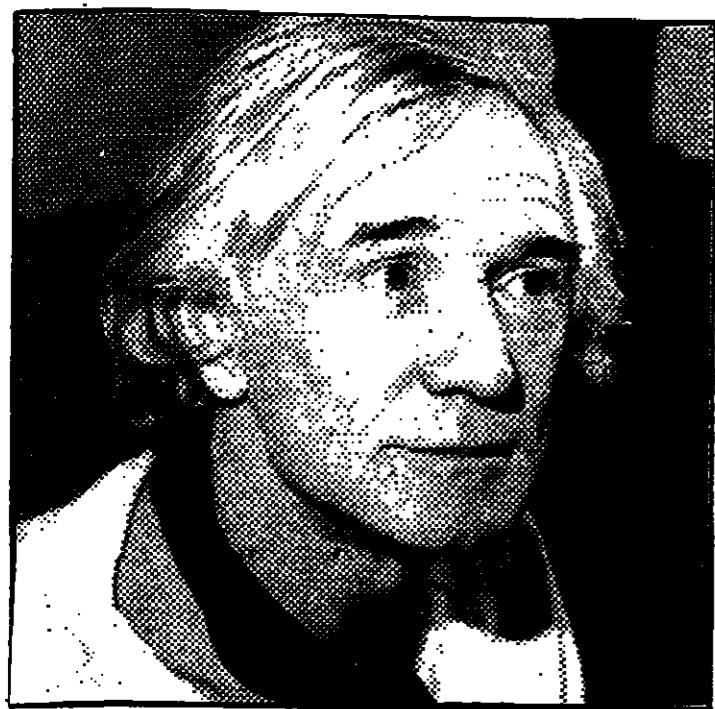
The Associated Press

Weekend Crossword

MIND YOUR BUSINESS
By Alvin L. Becker

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Richard Harris—resilient survivor and quintessential Irishman



Richard Harris

By Paul Majendie

Reuter

DUBLIN—Actor, extrovert, one-time hellraiser and hard drinker, poet and poet singer—Richard Harris has lived each role to the full as the quintessential Irishman.

His career on screen and stage has touched the heights with memorable performances in *This Sporting Life* and *Camelot* but also included some highly forgettable potboilers.

The tabloid columnist's delight, he has crossed swords with Marlon Brando and Charlton Heston in some memorable movie-making clashes.

He has suffered two broken marriages to actresses—first to the daughter of an English

aristocrat and second to a middle-class Jewish woman from New York—seen his brother die of a heart attack and helped his son fight off heroin.

He has gone from two bottles of vodka a day down to total abstinence, become a millionaire by shrewdly buying the rights of *Camelot* and made it into the top 10 with his song *MacArthur Park*.

Now his career is hopefully poised for yet another takeoff with his memorable portrayal of the bearded bull McCabe in the Irish film *The Field*, a stark tale of murder and revenge from the Oscar-winning team who produced *My Left Foot*.

In all, it seemed an ideal time for writer Gus Smith to embark on a biography of the

man who ranks alongside Peter O'Toole as Ireland's best known actor.

The fascination with the 57-year-old Harris has not died—the book *Richard Harris: Actor By Accident* has gone straight into the bestseller lists.

Despite all those ups and downs, Harris reflects with pride on his career: "What the group of actors of my age—Albert Finney, Peter O'Toole and Richard Burton—had was a fine madness, a lyrical madness."

"We lived our lives with that madness and it was transmitted into our work. So we were always dangerous. Dangerous to meet in the street ... in a restaurant ... and dangerous to see on stage or in a film."

"I have made 42 films. One of them was great—This

Sporting Life—and I have made four which were very good—*Camelot*, *The Molly Maguires*, *A Man Called Horse* and *The Snow Goose*."

The good times are remembered, not the bad. "Most of my excesses I enjoyed. The going was hard but it was good. I once went to see my old friend Peter O'Toole after a play to congratulate him on his performance."

"He looked at me over his glasses and said 'Harris, we should be dead. Think of the lives we have led—50 lives in 50 years'."

When growing up in Limerick, one of his screen idols was Marlon Brando. Working together on *Mutiny On the Bounty* in Tahiti proved a sad disappointment.

"I stood up to Marlon Brando at a time when a whole industry cowed and crumbled

before him. I called him a gross, misconceived bloody animal," Harris said in just one of the string of outspoken quotes from him that fill the book.

Sparks flew with Charlton Heston making *Major Dundee*. Harris merrily wore an alarm clock around his neck to annoy the super—punctual Heston.

Harris emerges as a complex chameleon of many contradictions but film directors were swift to praise his professionalism.

Andrew McLaglen fondly recalled making *The Wild Geese* with Harris and Richard Burton in South Africa.

"It was funny seeing these two old hellraisers off the booze and not complaining. Of course I was aware of their

reputations when I came to make the movie but I lost no sleep over that. They gave me no trouble."

Harris speaks freely of his heavy drinking which all ended at 11.20 p.m. on Aug. 11, 1981 at a Washington bar with two bottles of Chateau Margaux at \$325 each. "I drank them both and that was it."

"When someone said to me 'You'll be dead within six months if you don't, I stopped overnight. Same with regards to the four packs of cigarettes I used to smoke a day."

Now more mellow and philosophical, the resilient survivor offers the perfect epitaph for a career that could so easily have burned itself out: "In life, you have to run the length of your own wildness, testing and examining every foot of the way."

London offers politics, Joan Collins and a Redgrave family affair

By Matt Wolf
The Associated Press

dust to the revivals on the London stage this typically busy fall season.

Collins has returned to the theatre to play the barbed divorcee Amanda in Noel Coward's *Private Lives*. Co-starring Keith Baxter, the play will run at the Aldwych Theatre through Jan. 12, 1991.

The stylish 1930 comedy marks the actress's first West End appearance since *The Last of Mrs. Cheyney* in 1980. Collins is more widely known as elegantly malicious Alexis on U.S. television's *Dynasty*, but her theatrical roots date back to the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, which she attended in the 1950s.

In 1958, Vanessa Redgrave graduated from the academy's rival, the Central School of Speech and Drama, and is among the world's most acclaimed actresses.

In December, at a theatre to be announced, she joins sister Lynn and daughter Joely Richardson in Anton Chekhov's *Three Sisters*. The production follows this summer's *Three Sisters* starring a trio of Irish Thespian sisters—Sorcha, Sinead, and Niamh Cusack. The production, which ends Sept. 29, has been

a sellout in both Dublin and London.

Three Sisters provides Redgrave's first stage role since her controversial Broadway performance last fall in a revival of Tennessee Williams's *Orpheus Descending*.

The season's new plays heavily reflect recent headlines.

The Royal Shakespeare Company's London season is focused on Moscow Gold, a play by Tariq Ali and Howard Brenton about the era of glasnost and perestroika under Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Edgar was the adaptor of *The Life and Adventures of Nicholas Nickleby*, the Charles Dickens extravaganza that won the 1980 Tony Award for Best Play.

Sir Michael Hordern, 78, plays a retired schoolmaster in Keith Waterhouse's *Bookends*, opening the week of Oct. 22 at a theatre to be announced.

The show, directed by Ned Sherrin, co-stars Diana Rigg and Landen as Hordern's former star pupil. It comes from the author, director and producer whose hit *Jeffrey Bernard is Unwell* is in its eleventh month on the West End.

American drama will be



Vanessa Redgrave

represented by Jerry Steiner's off-Broadway hit *Other People's Money*, opening on Oct. 17 at the Lyric. Marianne Stone plays the Wall Street shark originated in New York by Kevin Conway. Maria Aitken, who was John Cleese's wife in the film *A Fish Called Wanda*, co-stars.

The production, opening Sept. 25 at the Phoenix, promises to be more stylized and less lighthearted than its Broadway predecessor. Under Richard Jones's direction, Julia McKenzie stars as the witch, and Imelda Staunton is the baker's wife.

Otherwise, London continues to host such hardy musical perennials as *Cats*, *Les Misérables*, *Aspects of Love*, *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Me and My Girl*, and *Miss Saigon*.

Art connoisseurs try to weed out masterpieces from artful forgeries

By Michael Hill
The Associated Press

ANNANDALE-ON-HUDSON, New York—It's been a long, strange trip for the oil painting of the nude woman and cupid now hanging in a Bard College Gallery.

The painting was found years ago in a haystack with a modest fig leaf painted on cupid and the chubby, prone woman's breasts enlarged. A private collector bought the painting, removed the over-painting and cleaned it.

And in the days before photography, copying the great contemporary works by hand for affluent buyers was common.

Bonnie Solomon, a New York art restorer, shone a black light on *Danae*, to determine if the work was fudged with overpainting.

"There was some work done on it, but not a lot," she said. Solomon said she's pretty sure the *Titan* is the real thing, along with another possible masterpiece by the European master El Greco.

The collection's presumed *Titan*, just like the work of one of his rivals or students, or any exceptionally talented painter familiar with El Greco's work.

"But look at his eyes. How could it be by anyone else?" Weintraub said.

Even established works of art can become suspect. Vincent van Gogh's *Self-Portrait With Straw Hat* is familiar to anyone who has ever flipped through an art book. The painting has been in the Metropolitan for years as one of the pearls of its collection.

Now, a leading scholar has raised questions about its authenticity.

Determining the creator of some non-European works is less difficult. Artisans kept a lower public profile in many other cultures, so their works tend to be less copied and hence less in demand.

But they pose other problems.

"Some of these works, we just have no idea where they're from," Weintraub said.

Works shown in the Bard exhibit such as the Chinese Buddha and little icons of Egyptian deities are easy to trace, but others aren't. Experts agree a small, carved ivory spoon shown at Bard is from Africa. But the where, when and even the why of the spoon are debatable.

"All the scholars are bewildered," Weintraub said.

"Even if there's a consensus, it's never absolutely known."

Still, the mystery collector says he's relatively unconcerned that someone might soon come up with some devastating evidence his Durer or ancient Greek coins are not what they appear to be.

"I bought all the work for its visual power," he said. "It wouldn't change the effectiveness of the work one bit."

S. Koreans make their Platoon in old Saigon

By Angus MacSwan

Reuter

ing up Vietnam's most glamorous actresses and filming in the old southern capital itself.

Korean troops won a fearsome reputation during the war though this film, a love story, will show a gentler side to the Korean nature.

Many young Koreans came here, fought and died. This movie shows there is a new friendship between Koreans and Vietnamese," Hoang told Reuters.

A Saigon *Too Far* stars Korean screen heartthrob Dong Jun Lee as a young officer who falls in love with a student played by Tuyet Ngan.

However, the plot is closer to a 1930 Hollywood tearjerker than the soul-searching of American movies such as *Deer Hunter* and *Born On the Fourth of July*.

Soldier meets girl; after passionate affair amid war he is wounded and shipped

home. Unknown to him she has a baby.

He cannot forget her and 16 years later, with anti-Communist Seoul and Marxist Hanoi moving aside the barriers to trade and friendship, he returns to the re-named city. After an anguishing search he finds her and takes her back to Seoul where they live happily ever after.

"It's a love story. Lots of fighting as well, but not all battles. A film must have ro-

mance," said Lee, who is also an international taekwondo champion.

He was speaking during a break in filming the crucial scene where the lovers-to-be first meet, shot on location at the terrace bar of the Majestic Hotel overlooking the waterfront.

The Hanoi-based Tuyet, dressed for the scene in a white silk Ao Dai (Vietnamese traditional dress), is Vietnam's most popular lead-

ing lady.

During a hectic 10 days in Vietnam the cast and crew also filmed battle scenes around the coastal resort of Vung Tau, hiring dozens of Vietnamese peasants to play civilians caught up in the war.

Le Duc Chinh, the Vietnamese production manager, said that as far as he knew this was the first such project between Vietnamese filmmakers and those from the non-Communist world.

"The object of the collection is not the collector. The object is the art," he said in a telephone interview. "I'm glad to have it scrutinized."

The scrutiny in this case has focused on the supposed *Titan*, posed as a first version of the artist's *Danae*, which depicts the picture's namesake just after being impregnated by Zeus.

Weintraub said experts such as former Metropolitan Museum of Art curator Thomas Hoving have declared it authentic.

One dissenting voice comes from artist Martin Canin who says "the painting lacks the quality of execution" to be a real *Titan*.

"I'm sure it's not," he said. "There's just too many bad passages."

Canin said his painter's eyes can see what many art historians cannot. In *Danae*, he sees little evidence of *Titan's* lines, and finds an "amateurish" painting of the figures' faces and feet.

The value of the works is not the point at issue, however.

"We simply want to get back what rightfully belongs to the state of the Netherlands," said Elen.

They built up by Haarlem businessman Franz Koenigs during the 1920s and housed in the museum.

Posse's choices were usually discussed personally with Hitler and sometimes overruled.

Posse entered into lengthy negotiations about acquiring part of the collection, but the outcome was never in doubt.

In March 1941, 526 drawings, including works by Rembrandt, Rubens, Titian and Durer, were shipped to Germany.

Hitler's pet project for a museum in his honour which was to be built in the Austrian town of Linz, where he spent part of his youth, was never realised. The drawings vanished and Dutch officials have been hunting for them ever since.

One Durer drawing was

found by the Americans in 1953 and 33 were returned by East Germany in 1987. A drawing by Holbein turned up at the British Museum where it had been sent for a valuation in 1987. And yet another work by Hans Baldung Grien appeared in a collection belonging to American Ian Woodner.

The other 490 are still missing—but perhaps for not much longer.

The reason for the optimism is the dramatic improvement of East-West relations over the last 12 months.

Although Posse paid the museum 1.4 million guilders for the drawings in 1941, the Germans obtained the purchase price in guilders by exchanging worthless reichsmarks and leaving the Dutch Central Bank to foot the bill, Elen said.

"We have good indications that they are kept partly in state depots, having been brought by art historians or army officers who were involved in transporting works of art from Germany to the Soviet Union after the war."

"We simply want to get back what rightfully belongs to the state of the Netherlands," said Elen.

Elen hopes the Koenigs collection will be next.

Moscow has undertaken a search for the drawings, sending experts to hunt through huge unexhibited stores of pictures in Leningrad's Hermitage and Moscow's Pushkin Museum.

The Russian authorities have said they will do their utmost to try and locate the drawings. We are hopeful they will succeed in locating them this year," Elen said.

"We have good indications that they are kept partly in state depots, having been brought by art historians or army officers who were involved in transporting works of art from Germany to the Soviet Union after the war."

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"We simply want to get back what rightfully belongs to the state of the Netherlands," said Elen.

Charged with finding works for a planned *Fuehrer* Museum, Posse, the director of the State Gallery in Dresden, had his eye on the collection.

AMSTERDAM—A search spanning four decades for one of the world's most valuable missing art collections seems to be drawing to a close.

After years of dogged detective work, Dutch art experts hope that hundreds of fine old master drawings will soon be returned to Rotterdam, half a century after they were taken away by the Nazis.

Adolf Hitler's personal art collector, Hans Posse, made his first appearance at Rotterdam's *Museum Boymans* in June 1940, six weeks after the Germans invaded the city.

Posse's choices were usually discussed personally with Hitler and sometimes overruled.

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Australian hospitals treat growing number of overseas patients

By Michael Perry

Reuter

SYDNEY — Overseas visitors are coming to Australia in their thousands for surgery that costs them perhaps half the price they would pay at home.

Recently, for example, four Americans had micro-surgery in Sydney to reverse vasectomies. They each paid \$5,000.

At home the operation would have cost them at least twice as much — and they could have been charged five times the Australian price.

"For the additional price of an airfare and accommodation in a top hotel, a person gets his operation, a few days' sightseeing, and still has five to \$15,000 change in his pocket," said a micro-surgeon.

The surgeon declined to be named as Australian law prohibits doctors from advertising.

"Although still in its infancy the business of Australian hospitals treating overseas patients will generate about 57 million dollars (\$47 million) in revenue in 1990 and by 1992, 85 million dollars (\$70 million), hospital officials say.

They say Australia's private hospitals, which specialise in cardiac surgery, currently treat about 6,000 overseas patients annually.

Most come from the Asia and Pacific region, especially Indonesia, Malaysia and Hong Kong. Until recently patients who required specialist treatment would fly to the United States or Europe for operations.

But a concerted marketing drive in the past four years by Australian private hospitals, involving swapping doctors and holding seminars, has seen them tap this lucrative market.

"We are now doubling our patients every year," says John Popper, marketing director at the 300-bed Epworth Private Hospital in Melbourne. Epworth treats about 200 overseas patients a year, mainly from Indonesia.

Epworth first started attracting overseas patients about three years ago and has boosted its efforts in the past 18 months through a doctor exchange programme with Jakarta's Harapan Kita (National Cardiac Centre).

"We send a team of cardiac surgeons to the hospital twice a year and some of their staff come here for post-graduate training. There are direct spin-offs in both directions," says Popper.

Popper says Indonesian doctors specialise in micro-replacement surgery. Australians in heart by-passes.

'Vaccine against cervical cancer possible'

LONDON (R) — British scientists have said they had taken the first step towards developing a vaccine against a form of cervical cancer usually transmitted sexually.

The Imperial Cancer Research Fund (ICRF) said animal research showed it was possible to produce a vaccine against a sexually-transmitted virus responsible for the development of cervical cancer.

Dr Lionel Crawford, head of the ICRF's tumour virus Group in Cambridge, said while a vaccine was still years away, the hope was that boys and girls could be vaccinated before puberty. This would protect girls against the virus and prevent boys infecting their partners in later life.

Cancer of the cervix kills 2,000 women a year in Britain despite national screening programmes.

Crawford told a news conference he hoped the vaccine could also help strengthen the body's defence systems for women with abnormal smears. A woman's own immune system would destroy the abnormal cells before they turned cancerous.

War, development bring Vietnam to the verge of an epidemic

By Larry Jagan

HANOI — Vietnam is currently facing a malaria epidemic which threatens to disrupt the country's economic reform programme. And its military support for the government in neighbouring Cambodia is one of the key causes.

The incidence of malaria in the countryside is already approaching crisis proportions, and experts say it will escalate in the next 12 months unless the government extends its anti-malaria campaign. To do that, it needs foreign aid.

Dr. Do Duc Tuy, director of the Malaria Institute in Hanoi, estimates that about 15 per cent of Vietnam's 57 million people have malaria. In some badly affected areas, such as mountainous and border regions, the figure is believed to be near 25 per cent.

In the Ky Anh district of Nghe An province, whole villages are infected. Agricultural productivity has declined drastically as a result. Some foreign specialists are worried that malaria could spread to nearly half the population. A foreign doctor, Dr. Benjamin Higgins, warns that malaria in South East Asia is on the rise and that Vietnam will experience an explosion in the coming year. He says that the incidence of malaria is known to expand suddenly every four or five years and that it is Vietnam's turn to experience this upsurge.

Mosquitoes pick up the malaria parasite from an infected person and transmit it to those who are free of the disease. To break the chain, Dr. Tuy says, a three-pronged strategy is being followed: preventing mosquitoes from biting people, killing mosquitoes and curing people already infected.

But at present, he laments, "all we can do is try to contain the current epidemic." Vietnam does not have the resources to invest in full-scale prevention and eradication programmes.

Ten years of fighting in Cambodia have brought Vietnam to the brink of an epidemic. In 1979, Vietnamese troops ousted Khmer Rouge leader Pol Pot from power in Phnom Penh, then committed more than a million soldiers to help the Hun Sen government's battle against resistance forces operating from bases in Thailand.

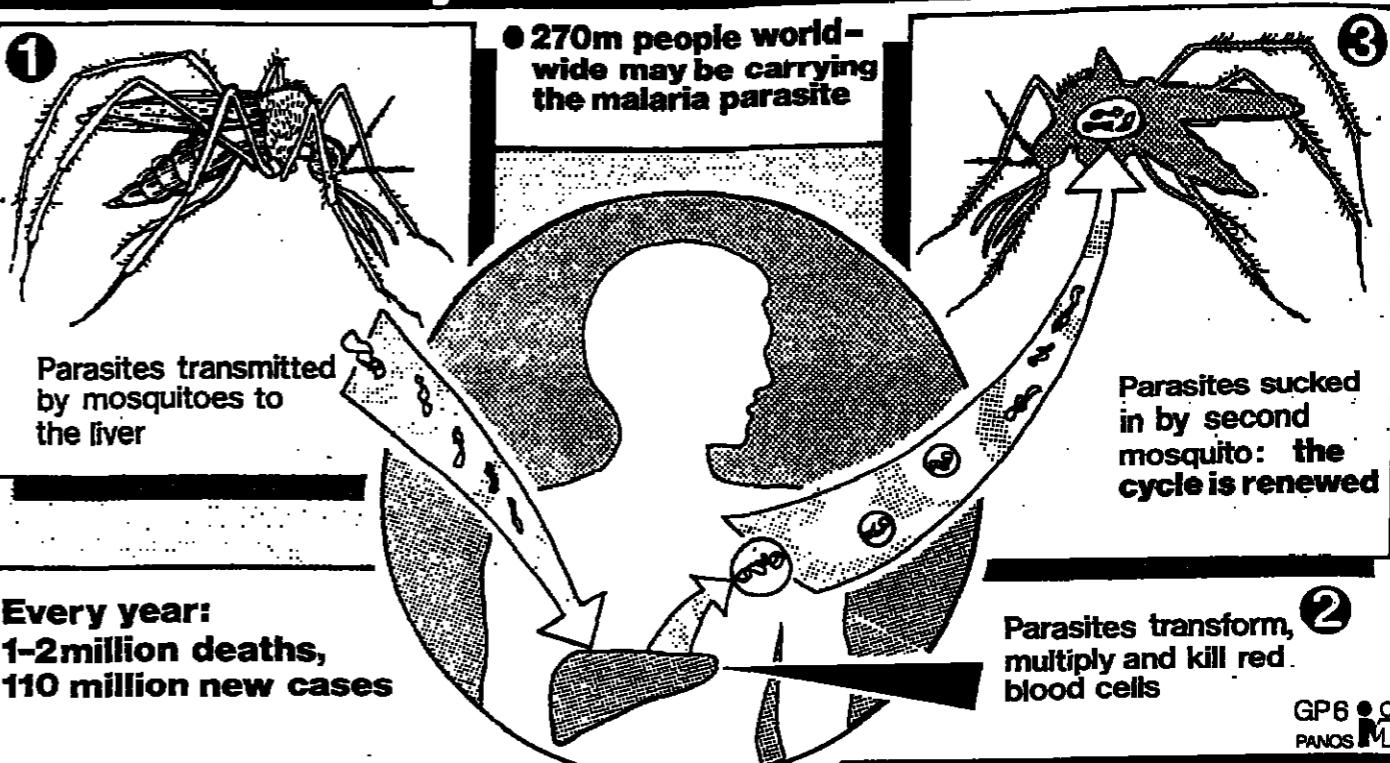
In September last year, the Vietnamese withdrew their last troops from Cambodia and began to count the cost.

Bui Tinh, editor of the Communist Party newspaper Nhan Zhan, says that in those ten years, more than 120,000 Vietnamese soldiers killed or incapacitated — half of them by malaria. General Tran Cong Man, former editor of the army paper, says 500,000 soldiers returned from Cambodia with malaria. This created a vast new reservoir of the disease, including the virulent cerebral variety.

Dr. Tuy admits the war was an important contributing factor in the current crisis, but prefers to play down its role.

"The movement of people in and out of malaria areas, like the new economic zones, building roads and returning to their own villages with

The malaria cycle



malaria parasite, is certainly the root cause of the current spread of malaria in Vietnam.

Poor economic conditions and inadequate health services have also contributed to the resurgence: "Malaria is even re-occurring in those areas which we regarded as completely free of it."

Dr. Tuy says the major problems is that the malaria parasites have become resistant to formerly lethal chemicals such as DDT and to drugs previously used for treatment. (The World Health Organization recently disclosed that parasites have developed re-

sistance to the drug Mefloquine on the Thai-Cambodian border, a development it

warned could endanger more lives than armed conflicts in the region.)

The Malaria Institute is also involved in developing new methods of control, including the impregnation of mosquito nets with the pesticide Permethrine.

According to Dr. Tuy, "this is not harmful to people, but is an effective deterrent against mosquitoes up to 100 metres. Mosquitoes which touch the net are killed instantly." The nets have to be re-impregnated every three or

four months.

Dr. Tuy says there is much work to be done before the method becomes widely used: "In some regions, especially in the 'minority' areas, we have supplied the local people with impregnated mosquito nets but they have not used them."

But control is an uphill battle. "We have no preventive drugs for malaria," says Dr. Tuy. "The state is doing its best to cope with the new growth of malaria, but we need international aid, and investment from the national government, for the next few years if we are to do anything

— Panos Features.

Study links pesticides to farmers' illness

By Jon Miller

CALAUAN, Philippines — Norlito Aquino was distressed when he began losing sensation in his right leg late last year. An energetic 49-year-old tailor, trader, pig breeder, rice farmer and father of seven Aquino says he was doing little but feeling sorry for himself until a visiting doctor suggested that he undergo an intensive series of medical tests.

"I had lost hope," he recalls between chores at his modest house in this small town 80 kilometres from Manila. "I was feeling very sick and I didn't know why. But the doctor tested me and said my problem was probably pesticides. So I stopped spraying. I lost some income, but I don't care. I haven't felt sick since."

Cynthia Marquez, the doctor who examined Aquino, says the numbness was a symptom of polyneuropathy, a form of nerve damage that destroys the sense of touch. Although the disorder can be caused by various factors, Marquez says that in Aquino's case it was "almost definitely" the result of exposure to insecticides. Like most Asian rice farmers, Aquino wears no shoes when he works in the flooded fields, and Marquez suspects that he absorbed the chemicals through the skin of his feet.

The condition may not have been diagnosed if Aquino had not been working with researchers from the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) in nearby Los Banos. Aquino farms a field monitored by IRRI as part of a study to determine the effects of pesticides on health and the environment.

"It is the first step towards a vaccine. We are very optimistic," he said.

Doctors taking part in the video also held out hope of reducing the death toll from breast and ovarian cancer.

Professor Stuart Campbell of King's College Hospital in London said ultra-sound screening for ovarian cancer should help cut Britain's 4,000-a-year death toll.

Ian Fentiman, deputy director of the ICRF's breast cancer unit, said 3,000 lives a year could be saved if all women aged 50 to 65 accepted breast cancer screening. He added that in future, women might be able to take a pill to prevent them getting breast cancer.

A research team of scientists from IRRI, the University of the Philippines at Los Banos and the Philippine National Crop Protection Centre has found that unsafe handling, spraying and storage of pesticides are most likely to blame for the unusually high rate of nerve, lung, eye, heart and blood disorders among rice farmers.

The study basically confirms what many health workers have suspected about the dangers of pesticides," says Marquez, an occupational health specialist who performed detailed medical examinations on 56 farmers from four towns in Laguna province, south of Manila. "But not one has ever run so many tests and gathered so much information on a single group of pesticide users."

Researchers monitored the amounts of pesticides used by the farmers over the course of a rice-growing season, along with the types of chemicals used and the duration of direct exposure. Then, to test for long-term health effects, they conducted full-scale laboratory examinations several weeks after harvest. Balancing nutrition and health data against pesticide exposure, they drew best-guess conclusions to distinguish between health problems caused by pesticides and those resulting from other factors.

Project scientists caution that the findings are not conclusive because the number of farmers studied is still quite small. But to Prabhu Pingali, an IRRI economist who heads the study team, some of the results are "mind-boggling."

Of the farmers examined, 55 per cent had eye problems and 54 per cent had cardiovascular irregularities; 41



Researchers are pointing to a link between illnesses suffered by farmers and the use of pesticides in agriculture

per cent had respiratory trouble and about 25 per cent had abnormally low levels of cholinesterase, an enzyme necessary for communication between the brain and other parts of the body. Three of the 56 farmers suffered from polyneuropathy, which has been linked to pesticide exposure in other studies. The incidence of the various ailments was far above what is considered normal in the local population.

Similar tests will be run next year on a larger group of farmers in Nueva Ecija province, north of Manila. Meanwhile, doctors will be evaluating the medical records of certified pesticide sprayers employed by IRRI at its main

experimental farm in Los Banos. The IRRI sprayers wear masks, full-body suits, rubber gloves and boots when they spray, and they should provide a useful control group against which to compare the farmers.

In addition to the ill effects on humans, researchers found that pesticides can contaminate drinking water as well as edible fish, snails, shrimps and frogs that live in rice fields. They are still trying to determine the lasting impact of pesticide use on soil nutrients. However, the scientists did not find any evidence of pesticide residue in rice grains, confirming earlier studies which concluded that there is virtually no risk of

pesticide poisoning for rice consumers.

Scientists are now working on ways to incorporate the environmental and health data into an analysis of the overall costs and benefits of pesticide use. The \$150,000 study is funded by IRRI and the American Rockefeller Foundation. "This is the first time anyone has gone out with a group of medical doctors, economists, chemists and biologists to look closely at the effects of pesticides on the whole rice production system," says Pingali. "Our results are still preliminary, but it is clear from findings so far that the health effects are far more alarming than the environmental effects."

Pesticide use in rice farming has increased dramatically since the mid-1960s. In the same period, worldwide rice production has increased by more than 75 per cent while the land area under cultivation has increased by only 25 per cent. Along with irrigation, fertilisers and improved rice varieties, insecticides are often considered a fundamental part of rice production. But they are a source of controversy.

"Considering the amount of publicity given to the dangers of pesticides, it's remarkable how little scientific research has been done," remarks Pingali. One major reason is cost, but the biggest problem has simply been logistics. The present study was possible only because IRRI has built a strong network of local farmers who are willing to put up with inquisitive researchers, he added.

The study has not linked pesticide exposure to mortality rates, although that issue will be explored in the coming

months. David Pimental, a researcher at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, estimates that around the world 500,000 people are poisoned by pesticides annually, leading to 10,000 deaths.

"Acute pesticide poisoning is easy to see, but chronic effects are much more subtle," Marquez explains. "People die of pneumonia, of respiratory ailments, of heart problems, and any of these could be traced to pesticide exposure."

Pesticide producers maintain that the chemicals are safe if used properly. But experts point out that poor farmers can rarely afford the costly protective clothing. And when they can afford it, farmers typically find the gear too uncomfortable to wear.

According to Pingali, the best way for farmers to reduce health risks is simply to cut the amount of pesticides they use. For several years, scientists at IRRI have been refining and promoting what is called "integrated pest management" (IPM), which relies less on chemical pesticides and more on resistant rice varieties and natural predators, such as spiders. IPM operates on the principle of "the right thing for the right time" and favours pesticides that target specific pests over broad-spectrum pesticides that kill every insect.

Some scientists at IRRI advocate a total elimination of pesticides in areas where poverty and weak infrastructure make it nearly impossible to ensure safe or cost-effective application — World News Link.

'Genital cancer could be sexually transmitted'

SYDNEY (R) — Some forms of genital cancer may be sexually transmitted, a U.S. dermatologist has said.

Dr. Peter Lynch of the University of Minnesota told an Australian, American symposium on skin cancer that a large number of people who are young and getting younger.

Lynch stressed that only a low percentage of genital warts caused cancer. "Of

genital warts, perhaps five per cent have the potential to cause cancer, and only one per cent will actually be associated with cancer," he told reporters.

Lynch estimated up to 70 per cent of the population was infected with HPV, either latently or overtly, but few of the HPV strains had high likelihood of causing cancer.

He raised the possibility of viruses also causing other forms of cancers. "I would not get much support from the

medical community for this supposition," he said.

In about five per cent of cases of lung cancer, HPV has been identified as being present. This could have arrived through transmission via oral sex or perhaps been present from birth via transmission from the patient's mother, Lynch said.

Lynch said HPV could be as

contagious as the Herpes virus. "It probably can be caught through everyday contact as hand warts are commonly transferred among children."

He said he believed people who had wart infections when very young helped build up defences to sexual acquisition of warts later in life.

Assad visit to Tehran raises hopes for hostages in Lebanon

By Ed Blanche

The Associated Press
NICOSIA — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad's visit to Tehran next week comes amid signals some Western hostages held by pro-Iranian militants in Lebanon could be released soon.

Diplomats in Damascus said Tuesday that the plight of the hostages is one of the main topics Assad will discuss with President Hashemi Rafsanjani and other Iranian leaders.

In Islamabad, capital of Pakistan, Iranian Ambassador Javad Mansouri told a news conference Tuesday that an unspecified number of the 13 Westerners held in Lebanon might be freed "perhaps in the next few days."

Pakistan has been used as an intermediary with Iran by the United States.

Mansouri gave no details but said Tehran had received "promises" from group's zealots holding the captives that some will be released. He did not name the groups.

Most of the hostages — six Americans, four Britons, two West Germans and an Italian — are held by Shiite factions linked to the fundamentalist Hezbollah (Party of God). It is Tehran's

main ally in Lebanon.

Syria, the main power broker in Lebanon and Iran's main Arab ally, has played a role in earlier hostage releases. Assad's visit to Tehran follows talks in Damascus last week with Saudi Arabia, Iraq made peace with Tehran to end the Iran-Iraq war.

Assad has sided with the United States in the Gulf crisis against his longtime Arab rival, Iraq. It is the first time Syria has been aligned with Washington in any Middle East conflict.

And Assad, cast adrift from his longtime Soviet mentor as Moscow moved to improve ties with Western nations, is eager to establish new links with the West.

Hopes that some hostages will be freed have brightened since the Gulf crisis set off by Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait.

The confrontation between Iraq and the United States has provided Rafsanjani with unexpected benefits that have helped him consolidate power in the faction-ridden Iranian hierarchy.

Rafsanjani, leader of Iran's so-called pragmatists, has been seeking to rebuild bridges with the West despite opposition by anti-Western radicals. He is believed to have had a hand in the release

of American educators Robert Polhill and Frank Reed in April and in last month's freeing of Iranian Brian Keenan.

When the United States rushed to aid threatened Saudi Arabia, Iraq made peace with Tehran to end the Iran-Iraq war.

Iraq withdrew its troops from territory occupied in the conflict, agreed to share sovereignty of the waterway forming the southern border between the two countries, and began exchanging prisoners of war.

The U.N.-imposed embargo on oil exports from Iraq and Kuwait took 4 million barrels a day off the market and sent oil prices soaring, reaping Iran billions of dollars more than expected.

Informed Shiite and other sources said 15 Iraqis and Lebanese imprisoned in Kuwait for 1983 bombings escaped before the Iraqi army took control.

Their release, repeatedly refused by Kuwait's deposed royal family, has been a key demand by the kidnappers in Lebanon.

The Iranians have called recent hostage releases "goodwill gestures" that must be reciprocated by the United States and its friends.

France recently released Anis Naccache, a Lebanese serving a

life sentence for the attempted 1980 assassination of former Iranian Prime Minister Shahpour Bakhtiar in Paris.

Syria's ambassador to Iran, Ahmad Al Hassan, was quoted by the English-language Tehran Times daily newspaper on Monday as saying "further reciprocal moves are needed by the West" before any more hostages could be freed.

According to sources in various capitals, those gestures may be forthcoming.

"The United States has been sending signals to Tehran that it wants to improve relations," one source said.

In Amsterdam, a Western source at the Iran-U.S. claims tribunal said the two countries are within days of settling Iran's request for payment of several hundred million dollars for military equipment it ordered before the 1979 Islamic revolution. Delivery of the equipment was frozen by the United States that year.

The source, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said another Iranian claim, probably worth hundreds of millions of dollars, was also close to settlement.

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Gulf crisis fails to puncture Gulf passion for motor sport

By Peter Bale
Reuter

DUBAI — The Kuwait crisis has not punctured the enthusiasm of the Gulf Arabs for car rallying.

Desert survival skills passed from father to son give the descendants of bedouins an edge in the rugged car rallies of the Middle East.

For dispossessed Kuwaitis, who fled their homes following Iraq's August 2 takeover of their country, such rallies also offer a chance to salvage some national pride.

"We are here to show that Kuwaitis still have a fighting spirit and to compete for our country, to show that Kuwait is a country, not part of Iraq," said refugee Chazi Al Zafiri.

Car rallying is a major sport in the oil-rich Gulf states — fed by abundant money, cheap fuel and a passion for fast cars.

"They read the sand, a European wouldn't stand a chance out here," said former Swedish rally star Jan Lindstrom who heads the Mitsubishi-Marlboro team in the Middle East.

Zafiri lined up alongside a Uni-

ited Arab Emirates fighter pilot and others on a steamy night recently to hurl their four-wheel-drive vehicles around desert tracks in the seventh round of the UAE rally championship.

He raced in jeans and sweat shirt, his racing suit having been lost in the rush to flee Kuwait.

Zafiri co-drives for Kuwaiti rally champion Eid Falah, in this round in a former Paris-Dakar rally Mitsubishi Pajero.

Falah was in Cairo when Iraq took over his country. He made a harrowing drive back into Kuwait City from Saudi Arabia to rescue his family and a few modest belongings.

"It was pretty dangerous," said Falah — an "I love Kuwait" sticker shining on his racing suit. "We had to drive across the desert because the roads were full of Iraqi tanks."

Falah and Zafiri are among the 30,000 Kuwaitis who have taken refuge in the UAE, the collection of states at the mouth of the Persian Gulf with close ties to Kuwait.

The crisis has proved a blow to the rallying career of leading emirates driver, Sheikh Suhail Bin Khalifa Al Maktoum.

With his privileged position as

fifth-in-line to the Dubai throne, the 23-year-old sheikh is a first lieutenant in the UAE air force, flying daily sorties in his British-made Hawk light fighter.

Rally driving is his second great love and he enjoys full sponsorship from Mitsubishi which supplies him its latest Galant four-wheel-drive, four-wheel-steering, turbo-charged rally car.

He had been due to compete in rally events in Kuwait and Yugoslavia later this year but a military alert in response to the Gulf crisis intervened.

"(Iraqi President) Saddam Hussein has ruined it," he said bitterly, leaning on his gleaming car in a fire-red racing suit.

"I would love to go and drive overseas and get more experience but I can't because of the situation. Everybody hopes nothing is going to happen but we have to keep flying and be prepared."

With his privileged position as

Sheikh Suhail has had a charmed entry into rallying and the airforce. He started competing in cars and flying aircraft at 15 — two years younger than the normal age for getting a driving licence.

"I had to have my licence early so that I could drive to the airbase to fly," he explains.

"I think I like flying best," he said. "There's a different skill involved. When you're flying you are in the air all by yourself, no co-driver, it's just you and your aircraft."

But he said skills learned in the air were valuable for pushing the car and driver to the limit. "The flying gives you better reactions ... maybe it lets you go faster."

Says manager Lindstrom:

"They are absolutely fearless."

Sheikh Suhail's reactions or worked well. He won the rally over six bruising stages of 55.4 km in 26 minutes and 42 seconds, more than three minutes faster than the Land Rover of Abdullah Omar of the UAE.

Kuwaitis Falah and Zafiri

didn't read the sand so well, became stuck in one of the desert stages and came ninth.

Another driver was disqualified

for taking a short cut.

Others abandoned traditional

skills in favour of Western technology and had spotter cars around the course relaying advice by car telephone, but to no avail.

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Olympic committee invokes strict enforcement of bidding rules

TOKYO (AP) — The International Olympic Committee (IOC) launched a crackdown Wednesday on the free-spending campaigns of cities hoping to host the games. Flagrant violators could be banished from the bidding.

A day after handing a billion dollar present to Atlanta — the centennial Olympics in 1996 — the IOC's executive board placed strict limits on the gifts and travel that bidders can offer committee members.

While Atlanta organisers held their first round of meetings about actually staging the games and talked of record television and advertising packages, the losers were clearing out their offices and wondering what went wrong.

"The Olympics have become a North American event," said Jean Walsh, communications director of Melbourne's bid. Atlanta will be the fourth North American Olympics since 1980.

Nevertheless, the Australian city announced Wednesday that it would try again for the games of 2000.

Billy Payne, the head of the Atlanta bid, said the White House had called to arrange a congratulatory meeting with U.S. President George Bush in Washington next week.

"I think he sees it as a chance to reaffirm the American commitment to the Olympic movement," Payne said. Bush made a videotaped appeal to the IOC on behalf of the Atlanta bid.

Tuesday.

From now on, each bidder can invite each IOC member to visit the city once. Gifts to members are limited to a total of \$200.

Unlike previous attempts to hold down the expenses, the board this time included punishment in the new rules. It will publicise violations it discovers and — if the bidding crime is bad enough — throw the candidate out.

"We are not trying to be policemen, we will not turn into the CIA or the FBI," Francois Carrard, the IOC's secretary general, said. "But there should be acceptable rules. We are not going to check, but we are not naive. And if it's known that they have broken the rules, we will publicise it to all of the Olympic Movement."

Carrard said a bidder's expulsion would be used as a last resort.

There have been reports of numerous first-class flights to faraway destinations and lavish presents, including gold medallions and jeweled necklaces, as the lists of bidders have grown in recent years.

Carrard and Jim Worrall, a retired IOC member from Canada, said the problem started in 1986, when 13 cities were bidding for the 1992 summer and winter games. Diamonds, fur coats and other luxury items were said to be changing hands then.

"Those campaigns showed

there was an almost-traitorous effort by some cities," Carrard said. "This time, things were improved. But when you have six big cities in the bidding, as we did this year, things have a way of escalating."

The scope of the problem was illustrated by Bob Scott, head of Manchester's unsuccessful bid. Manchester's \$5.7 million bid budget was a fraction of the other cities'.

"We spent no money whatsoever on gifts, which didn't stop members from coming up to me and thanking me for the gifts they received," Scott said.

Princess Anne, one of Britain's IOC members, said Manchester's strategy had been correct, even though it was eliminated on the second round with just five votes.

"I am in the habit of sending (the gifts) all back, and that has created a busy task for the people with me — a rather steady stream," she said. "We chose not to do that and believe the money can be better spent developing the Olympic Movement."

The IOC also took the first step toward controlling the growth of the summer games.

It adopted a new charter that says sports must be played in at least 75 countries on four continents for men and 40 countries on three continents for women to be part of the Olympic schedule. The limits now are 50 countries on three continents for men and 35-3 for women.

The new limits make effect for the games of 2000.

The charter revision, headed by Worrall, took eight years, and the copy now goes to International Federations and National Olympic Committees.

"This is no total revolution. It is restructuring of the document that is readable and workable," Carrard said.

The session also elected Kevan Gosper of Australia as a vice president, filling a new position. Gosper has been a member of the executive board.

Most of the bidders said before Tuesday's vote that Athens was the only city to which they would not mind finishing second, because of its historical attraction.

With Atlanta the winner, the bitterness of some was coming out.

"I still think we had a bid as good as Atlanta's," Walsh said. "But it appears that a city that offers everything can't win... I would have thought that IOC members, if they loved the Olympic Movement, would realise that the Olympic Movement belongs to the world."

Still, Melbourne jumped right back into the race to host the first games of the 21st century.

"We were disappointed by last night's results but we will not be discouraged," Joan Kirner, premier of the Australian state of Victoria, said. "Our bid is too good to be allowed to sink without trace."

Nations divided over Iraq at Asian Games

PEKING (R) — Asian nations are bitterly divided ahead of Thursday's crucial vote on whether to expel Iraq from the Asian Games which open in Peking Saturday.

"The vote will be close. It will be unpredictable. It can go either way," said Chaman Lal Mehta, secretary of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA).

Iraq's fate is to be decided in a secret ballot by National Olympic Committee heads from the OCA's 38 member states and territories, including representatives of both Baghdad and the Kuwaiti government in exile.

Mehta said it was not yet clear whether members would back a recommendation by the OCA's Executive Committee to ban the Iraqi sportsmen from competing.

If Iraq is to be expelled from the games, at least two thirds of the votes cast must be in favour. Abstentions will not count.

Delegates said stormy debates preceded two previous Asian

Games expulsions — Israel's in Tehran in 1974 at the urging of Arab nations and Taiwan's in Bangkok in 1978 to ease China's re-entry into the OCA.

In Peking Wednesday, pro- and anti-Iraq delegates traded bitter accusations.

"For us, it is an emotional issue," said a spokesman for the Kuwait delegation. "Iraq committed aggression against a member country of the OCA. Iraq must go."

A sport official from Saudi Arabia said: "Iraq will be expelled. We are sure. We cannot allow the movement to be divided."

Jordan, leading Baghdad's defense in Peking expects support from countries who want a compromise that would allow both Iraq and Kuwait to compete.

Countries believed to support a compromise include Malaysia and India, according to a South East Asian sports official.

Only Agassi missing from Paris Open tennis games

PARIS (R) — Next month's \$2-million Paris Open men's tennis tournament has attracted a stronger-in-depth entry than any of this year's Grand Slam events with only Andre Agassi missing, organisers said Wednesday.

The American world number four apart, all of the top 37 on the Association of Tennis Professionals' computer ranking list have signed up for the competition which starts on Oct. 29.

The seedings will be headed by world number one Stefan Edberg, Boris Becker and Ivan Lendl.

If all the players appear, the tournament will be the strongest ever held outside the four Grand Slam competitions.

The entry list is so formidable that the 1987 Paris Open champion American Tim Mayotte, ranked 38th in the world, is not entitled to one of the 36 automatic

"They shouldn't keep giving it to the same country," she said.

In Belgrade, the Tanjug commentary said that despite the fact Belgrade has been trying to stage the Olympics since its first bid in the 1930s, it is now "highly unlikely" it will get future games.

"It was the wealth of the Coca Cola company and the might of the CNN television network which won the right" for Atlanta to stage the games said Tanjug, quoting unidentified Yugoslav officials.

"The IOC's choice was based on profits which the IOC itself criticised for years."

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 21, 1990

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Promote your desire and intent to gain the good will of those you know to be very social and make as many contacts as possible but be sure to act in an unobtrusive manner in gaining your objective....

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) A very good day to get together with a family member to discuss and to thresh out what will be your best way to increase your assets, income.

Taurus: (April 20 to May 20) Get some new slant or point of view to put into whatever communications that are important to you and lighten up conversational methods, too.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Much of a business nature is coming up now that can be most helpful to you in your daily occupation so be sure to latch on to and start news for efficiency.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Whatever you have in mind for pleasing one whom you are very fond requires subtly finding out what that individual likes the most now.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Consider well what needs repairs or renovating at your dwelling then you will be able to contact stores that deal in such materials.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) One who is successful and pretty fixed in ways success comes to that person will privately give you a well rounded awareness how to be more prosperous.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) You have a very brilliant inspired idea for increasing the productivity of your everyday occupation but you need some assistance from a congenial companion.

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HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 20, 1990

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A moodiness or you can also become depressed for apparently no good reason.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Its your day to do nothing to which anyone in the public eye could take exception, otherwise you could have some loss of good standing.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Consider what your family desires and by making sure that you follow the line of aiding them to obtain goals, you sidestep a bitter argument.

Taurus: (April 20 to May 20) Forgo that urge to be overbearing and impulsive in going after some outside attraction for it will be yours more easily under better aspects.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) You feel you do not have the right end of a condition in which some money goes to another person instead of to yourself but don't complain about it.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) You are likely to feel you are being slighted where some favour or honour is given out but it would only lead to trouble even if you get it.

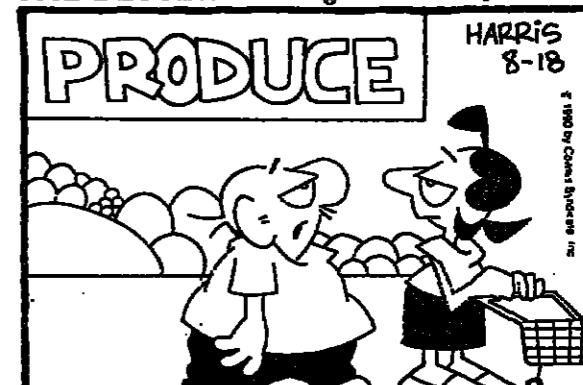
CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Some matter comes into the open that startles and surprises you but don't show your amazement and you win out in an untenable situation.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Strain and tension between some fellow associates and you is bound to occur sometime and if it does today, take it in your stride, absent yourself from strife.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) You have been looking forward very much to some pleasure that conflicts with the whims of another person who can make it tough to enjoy.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"Maybe it's called produce because the prices produce big headaches."

Shock, anger and tears follow IOC announcement

SHOCK, anger, disappointment and tears flowed from the five cities rejected by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) as hosts for the 1996 summer Olympics.

While firecrackers exploded in Atlanta workers wept and clutched roses in Manchester England; An Australian government official cried "no fair" and the Yugoslavian news agency Tanjug called the decision "a gross sports injustice."

But disappointment seemed to be greatest in Athens, which lost to Atlanta on the final ballot of five rounds of voting.

Crowds gathered in Grecian town squares Tuesday, waiting for the 21-gun salute that would kick off parades around the country. Ships in port were ready to sound their sirens with the news that Athens would host the centennial of the modern Olympic Games in 1996.

After it was announced Atlanta had beaten Athens, Toronto, Melbourne, Manchester and Belgrade, crowds in Athens slowly dissolved into a city decked with flags but plagued by power blackouts and traffic chaos.

The problems in Athens have been brought on by more than a week of strikes to protest the conservative government's austerity measures.

At Athens' Panathinaic Stadium, the white marble horseshoe shaped stadium that,

was the birthplace of the modern Olympics in 1986, people expressed their anger.

"We began the games and we should have got them," said Stefanos Vassilou, a high school student — one of about 40,000 young people who had volunteered to help organise the Olympics.

"Athens should have got the Olympics," Nikos Toulatos, an architect, said. "We had made good preparations for the organisation and infrastructure."

Others, holding a three-page programme of planned celebrations, cried out, "it's a disgrace."

In Melbourne, people booed and immediately started drifting away from city square, despite a performance by one of the country's more popular musical groups, Crowded House.

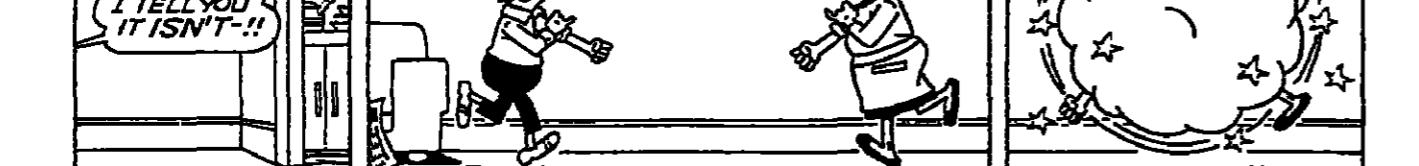
Those who remained shouted angrily over the decision. The boisterous atmosphere that prevailed earlier virtually evaporated.

Thousands of mostly young people jammed city square to listen to live music before the announcement at 9:30 p.m. local time. Hundreds already were there six hours earlier, and police eventually closed off nearby streets as the crowd grew steadily and overflowed the square. Stores stayed open late. About a dozen searchlights crisscrossed the sky, occasionally catching errant helium balloons carrying Olympic

Mutt'n'Jeff



Andy Capp



Peanuts



Israeli central bank accuses government of mishandling sale of state-owned bank

TEL AVIV (R) — The Bank of Israel Tuesday accused the government of mishandling the sale of state-owned IDB Bankholding Corp. Ltd., saying it had given preference to the bank's ousted Israeli directors.

In an usually strong statement, central bank governor Michael Bruno recommended extending the tender's deadline by three months to widen competition for IDB, the first of four banking groups slated for privatisation.

It was the latest criticism of a troubled privatisation scheme Israel hopes will raise capital to

fund a mass influx of Soviet Jewish immigrants. Bruno said problems with the IDB deal could undermine the sale of other state firms.

Only two candidates made the mandatory \$10 million deposit by the Sept. 12 deadline to secure participation in the bidding, he said. One was the Recanati family, which was stripped of control in 1986 over a bank shares scandal.

The Recanatis still own nearly 13 per cent of IDB, built around Israel Discount Bank. It is the third largest bank in Israel with

assets worth \$15 billion.

Bruno criticised a contract between the Recanatis and M.I. Holdings (MIH), the state firm that holds IDB's shares, setting the terms for the sale of a stake of between 26 and 51 per cent. He said the central bank knew of the terms only after the pact was signed.

"The restrictive conditions in the contract with the current owners and the preference that was given to them in the contract contributed to deterring buyers," the statement said.

"For example, (there were)

conditions that determined IDB would be sold as a whole and not split up, (and) the short time given for announcing one's participation in the tender."

British publisher Robert Maxwell decided not to bid for IDB, telling Bruno in a letter one day before the deadline that he was interested in buying only IDB's industrial holdings.

Banking sources said other potential foreign investors had expressed reservations about the tender and feared they would not be given enough access to IDB's financial records.

Egypt calculates \$2.73 billion in losses from crisis in Gulf

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — Egypt's losses from the Gulf crisis will reach 7.5 billion Egyptian pounds (\$2.73 billion), the government's planning minister was quoted as saying Wednesday.

Minister Kamal Al Ganzouri

reported the crisis' impact on Egypt to the cabinet before leaving for Washington and meetings of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, the state-owned newspaper Al Ahram reported.

One of his missions in the United States is to discuss debt relief with the agencies.

Al Abram said Al Ganzouri's cabinet memorandum predicted that Egypt will lose three billion pounds (\$1.09 billion) in expatriate workers' remittances. Another three billion pounds will be lost to increases in import prices, the document said.

About 400,000 Egyptians worked in Kuwait and 1.5 million in Iraq before Iraq's takeover of Kuwait. About 280,000 have returned to Egypt, and tens of thousands more are expected.

The minister said Egypt's Suez

Canal will lose 300 million pounds (\$109 million) in revenues. The U.N.-led international blockade against Iraq and the absence of oil exports from both Iraq and Kuwait are expected to reduce traffic through the international waterway.

Tourism income also will fall, by 700 million pounds (\$255 million), added the memorandum. The Gulf crisis has led thousands of tourists to cancel their plans to visit Egypt.

The memorandum said two plans currently are under study to offset the losses. One is a possible cutback in imports, the other an increase in industrial production.

Minister Al Ganzouri's report to the cabinet followed a series of ministerial meetings, some chaired by President Hosni Mubarak, to assess losses from the seven-week-old Gulf crisis and to consider remedies.

The report was prompted by Al Ganzouri's expected talks in Washington with officials of the two international financial institutions on an Egyptian economic reform package.

markets.

Wednesday's increase was decided by the inter-departmental government committee charged with reviewing oil prices. It includes officials from the oil, finance, foreign and other ministries.

Monday, Oil Minister Abdul Hady Kandil did not even wait for pricing committee members to assemble for a review and himself ordered the \$3 per barrel increase.

Egypt previously reviewed export prices every fortnight but changed the practice after Iraq's takeover of Kuwait. Since then, the reviews have been made at shorter and irregular intervals.

Egypt produces 870,000-900,000 barrels of oil daily. It is not a member of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries. It exports almost half of the output at prices that are set in light of world market conditions and OPEC policies.

Egypt is expected to gain one million in oil revenues due to successive increases in its oil prices.

Gulf crisis worsens Lebanon's plight

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — Younis Bazzi climbed a cliff in Beirut overlooking the Mediterranean last week and flung himself on the rocks below. He was Lebanon's first fatality in the Gulf crisis.

Bazzi, 45, a Shi'ite Muslim cab driver, left a hand-written note on the cliff along with the identity cards of his four children: Imad, 13, Ihsan, 11, Fatima, 9 and Yousef, 6.

"I can't cope any more. I can't feed even you, let alone send you to school," the note said. "I've decided to end my agony. Good luck to all of you and please forgive me."

Bazzi's death was a dramatic example of how Iraq's takeover of Kuwait has caused widespread economic and social hardship in a country already ravaged by 15 years of civil war.

The invasion has sent the Lebanese currency tumbling to a record low — from 600 liras to the dollar in late July to 1,200 liras to the dollar now.

The prices of commodities have tripled or quadrupled over the last two weeks.

A loaf of bread sells at 10 cents, five times what it cost last month.

The worldwide surge in oil

prices triggered by the crisis has been devastating. Lebanon has to import all its oil and is now paying double what it was six weeks ago with foreign currency it can ill afford.

The price of 20 litres of gasoline has nearly tripled from \$3.50 to \$9.00. Heating and power generator fuel has gone up from \$2.80 for 20 litres to \$7.50.

It's the same story with staples like rice, sugar, vegetables, potatoes, milk and canned food.

Lebanon has to import more than 90 per cent of its food requirements.

The government-decreed minimum wage of 45,000 Lebanese liras a month is now worth \$40 compared to more than \$80 in late July.

"My salary's barely enough to support my wife and two kids for one day, let alone a whole month," lamented Mahmoud Saifi, 30, a minimum-wage bus driver.

Economists say that the Gulf crisis has done as much damage to the economy, once the most prosperous in the Middle East, as the 15 years of civil war, Israeli invasions and factional feuding put together.

President Elias Hrawi's government was counting on \$2 billion

Bush promotes capital gains cut for budget pact

DENVER (R) — President George Bush Tuesday defended his demand for a capital gains tax cut in any budget agreement with Congress — insisting the controversial tax break would spur the U.S. economy.

Changing the capital gains tax law has become a major stumbling block in negotiations between Congress and the White House on a federal budget for the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1.

Unless a budgetary compromise can be hammered out before the next fiscal year starts, U.S. law mandates automatic across-the-board spending cuts of more than \$100 billion.

Bush's defense of his capital gains tax cut proposal comes as his administration's negotiations with Congress on the budget ended after 11 days of meetings at an air force base outside Washington failed to reach agreement on cutting the deficit by

\$500 billion over five years.

The capital gains tax is a levy on the increase in the value of an asset like property or stocks between the date it was acquired and the date it was sold.

Despite cries from Democrats that Bush's call for slashing the capital gains tax from as high as 33 per cent down to 15 per cent would benefit only the rich, Bush told a Republican Party fundraising lunch that such a cut would generate new jobs and fuel economic expansion.

"The key issue here at home remains the health of our national economy," he said.

Democrats claim Bush's capital gains proposal would help only America's wealthiest taxpayers while ignoring everyone else — an argument that could tap into the emotions of voters who cast ballots this November for House of Representatives and Senate candidates.

"There cannot be any delays or failures," Ruggiero told a news conference after a meeting of EC trade ministers.

He said it was essential for countries to reach agreement in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) talks, despite a deep split between Brussels and Washington over farm trade reform.

"Imagine the repercussions at such a moment if Europe were to be torn away from America and the North were torn away from the South," he said.

At their meeting outside Rome, the ministers dwelt on the impact dearer oil will have on developing countries and Eastern Europe.

Ruggiero said the EC message

UNCTAD sees Gulf crisis reinforcing world recession

LONDON (R) — The world economy is slipping into recession, a trend likely to be reinforced by the Gulf crisis, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) said in a report released Wednesday.

Only some fast-growing economies in Asia and some in the European Community are likely to resist the trend, UNCTAD said in its annual trade and development report.

At an earlier briefing for journalists on the report, an UNCTAD official said if the price of oil stayed at \$30 per barrel, oil-importing countries would have to pay out an extra \$26 billion in 1991.

He said this would eat up a further 10 to 15 per cent of the export earnings that developing countries which import oil have

left after they service their external debts.

UNCTAD was set up in 1964 to promote better international trading conditions for developing countries and help raise their standard of living.

This year's report was completed before Iraq's takeover of Kuwait in early August but the agency has updated some of its analysis in the light of events.

The UNCTAD report was the latest in a series of analyses on the world economy that predict the Gulf crisis will add to economic woes.

The International Monetary Fund, which starts its annual meeting in Washington next week, has painted a bleak picture for Third World countries that are heavily dependent on imported oil.

EC says tension in Gulf threatens world trade talks

ROME (R) — The Gulf crisis threatens efforts to open up world trade but economic protectionism must be resisted, European Community (EC) ministers agreed Tuesday.

Italian Trade Minister Renato Ruggiero said higher oil prices stemming from the crisis made it more important than ever to reach agreement in the current round of global trade talks, set to end in early December.

"There cannot be any delays or failures," Ruggiero told a news conference after a meeting of EC trade ministers.

He said it was essential for countries to reach agreement in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) talks.

But Andriessen said he welcomed an announcement by U.S. trade representative Carla Hills in Geneva Tuesday that the United States would soon make a revised farm trade proposal, backing off from its demand to eliminate all export subsidies.

"This is a positive element in the negotiations," he said.

Andriessen said the EC Commission would consider Thursday a reform plan floated in July by EC Farm Commissioner Ray Ruggiero said the EC message

to those nations was that "this crisis must not produce a reply of a protectionist character. The only response must be a greater liberalisation of world trade."

EC chief trade negotiator Frans Andriessen told Reuters: "The Gulf is a threat to a certain extent on the process of liberalising trade."

Andriessen said the EC feared developing countries crippled by higher energy bills would be unable to make trade concessions in the Uruguay Round of GATT talks.

The GATT talks seek to write new rules in areas such as agriculture, services and investment.

The ministers did not discuss farm trade reform, the most vexed issue in the GATT talks.

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Andriessen said the EC Commission would consider Thursday a reform plan floated in July by EC Farm Commissioner Ray Ruggiero said the EC message

Macsharry, who proposes cutting farm support by 30 per cent between 1986 and 1996.

He said that despite differences and a short calendar a GATT deal could be clinched before the December deadline.

"There is sufficient time if there is sufficient will. We are now waiting for the other side to show the same will and realism," Andriessen said, making clear the key dispute was with Washington.

Ruggiero said the EC was committed to helping developing countries by opening up its market to their textile exports.

He called on the United States, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and Japan to match the EC's textiles offer, saying their proposals so far were totally insufficient.

But the Gulf crisis has introduced "new and substantial risks" to the U.S. economic outlook, he said. Higher oil prices have added to overall price pressures and may have begun to restrain economic activity, he said.

"In addition to the effects of the higher oil prices per se, just the enormous uncertainty about how and when the tensions in the Gulf will be resolved undoubtedly is affecting the economy in a negative way," Greenspan told the House of Representatives and Senate economic committee.

THE SPANISH CULTURAL CENTRE announces

The start of the autumn Spanish language courses. Registration for this course starts on Sept. 24 and lasts until Sept. 30.

Courses begin on Oct. 1 and run for three months. Courses for all levels — three hours per week for each level. Fees for each course: JD 40 including books.

For more information please call the Spanish Cultural Centre, Jabal Amman, First Circle tel: 624649 daily except Fridays and Sundays.

NOTICE

Any information concerning Miss Francisca Villar of Philippino nationality will be appreciated.

Please contact telephones, 645161, 643421, 665836

CONCORD
Tel: 677420
Directed by Lahham
Madeline Tabar
In
1-KAFROUN
3:30, 6:45, 8:45, 10:45 P.M.
2-SENIOR WEEK
5:15, p.m.

NIJOUN
Tel: 675571
Samir Ghanem, Ahmad Bdeir
in
KILL MY WIFE WITH THANKS (Arabic)
Performances: 12:00, 3:00, 6:00, 9:00 p.m.
Friday & Sunday extra show at 11:00 a.m.

RAINY
Tel: 625155
Indiana Jones
in
TEMPLE OF DOOM
Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30 p.m.

PHILADELPHIA
Tel: 634144
Samir Ghanem, Ahmad Bdeir
in
KILL MY WIFE WITH THANKS (Arabic)
Performances: 3:45, 6:45, 9:45 p.m.

PLAZA
Tel: 699238
Izzat Al Alali
Yahya Al Fakhrani
in
Execution of a Judge
Performances: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.

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Volkswagen Jetta, 1.6 liters. Automatic gear. 1988 model. Made 12000 km. Perfect condition, duty unpaid.
Tel. 843555/Ext. 3966 evenings only.

AMERICAN FURNITURE NEEDED
American furniture needed: bedrooms, salons, dining rooms, old Chinese and French ware.
Tel: 828369. After 2:00 p.m., pls. call tel. 668497

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\$2,800 or best offer
Contact tel. no. 684151 - Mr. Adeeb

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Cambodian council talks collapse

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) — The first meeting of a council formed of all Cambodia's warring factions collapsed Wednesday with each side accusing the other of endangering the body convened to guide the nation to democracy.

"Our regret is that in the three days of our meeting, we have not been able to reach any agreement at all," Premier Hun Sen of the Vietnamese-installed Cambodian government told a news conference.

"The first meeting is not yet over," he said. "It's only a temporary adjournment."

Hun Sen left Phnom Penh shortly afterwards. There was no word on when talks might resume.

The Supreme National Council held only one formal meeting, at the opening session Monday at the Cambodian embassy. For the next two days, the factions stayed in their Bangkok hotel.

The council currently consists of six government representatives and two from each of the three allied guerrilla groups: The Khmer Rouge, the forces of former head of state Norodom Sihanouk and the Khmer People's

National Liberation Front led by former Premier Son Sann.

A plan adopted last month by the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council, and embraced last week by the Cambodian factions as a basis for a settlement, says the council

accepted Hun Sen as head of the U.N. delegation, "we accept the fait accompli of the occupation of Cambodia by the Vietnamese. We cannot accept that when we have fought for 11 years to liberate our country."

In a statement Wednesday, the Khmer Rouge said that rejecting Sihanouk, "can only be construed as an attempt to kill the permanent five document and the Jakarta joint statement... and therefore to prolong the war in Cambodia."

It said Sihanouk is the only Cambodian statesman accepted by all Cambodians and other countries and only he can play a key role in achieving national reconciliation and implementation of the U.N. plan.

The Hun Sen side said if the leadership questions could not be resolved, it should have been deferred so that the council could address other issues, including arranging a ceasefire, ending outside military aid, and choosing a delegation to the U.N. General Assembly.

The guerrillas rejected this. A Hun Sen statement said, "preferring to obstruct the (council) from solving other questions."

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Son Sann said if the guerrillas

The General Assembly opened Tuesday, and its members had hoped that the seat currently occupied by the guerrilla coalition, led by Sihanouk, would be transferred to the Supreme National Council.

A statement from the coalition's U.N. representation, dated Tuesday, said the seat would be left "unattended" until a council chairman is elected.

"I ask myself how come I have come into confrontation with Sihanouk when our object was to confront the Khmer Rouge," Hun Sen told the news conference Wednesday.

"I would like to stress I have no intention to confront Prince Sihanouk, but the question of principle forced me," he said.

Sihanouk said from his Peking home that he was ill and could not attend the meetings in Jakarta this week in Bangkok.

His son and main representative, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, also disrupted the Bangkok talks by leaving for Paris Tuesday and appointing a replacement on the Supreme National Council. Ranariddh denied he was boycotting the talks or blocking their

Assembley.

The guerrillas rejected this. A Hun Sen statement said, "preferring to obstruct the (council) from solving other questions."

Jaruzelski to step down early as president

WARSAW (AP) — Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski, who as Communist leader tried to crush Solidarity in 1981 and all but surrendered power last year, will step down early as president, his office announced Wednesday.

The move will allow Poland,

the first East Bloc country to oust

ruling Communists when a Solidarity-led government was

formed last year, to complete its

transition to democracy with the

popular election of a president.

On Monday, Solidarity Chairman Lech Walesa became the

first person to declare his can-

didacy for the post. Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki also is

known to be considering a bid for

president.

Parliament is to begin debate

Thursday on a schedule for the

elections, which are expected as

early as this fall and no later than

the spring.

Jaruzelski's announcement came a day after he met with Walesa and Mazowiecki and they agreed on accelerating plans for holding post-Communist Poland's first fully democratic general elections.

The current parliament, elected last year, includes holdovers from the old leadership who as part of a political compromise took seats without a challenge at the polls.

A spokesman for Jaruzelski said in a statement that the general wished parliament "to enable him to transfer the office he holds to a president chosen in a general election."

Jaruzelski was elected to a six-

year term as president by parliament in July 1989, with some support from Solidarity members, largely to smooth relations with the Soviet Union in the early months of democratic change.

The British Broadcasting Corp. (BBC) reported that Cohen arrived as Brig.-Gen. David Niumley, the officer who took over from slain President Samuel Doe, announced his remaining troops were fighting their way through downtown Monrovia toward the city port to protect supporters who are waiting to be evacuated.

Niumley accused the five-nation West African Task Force deployed to enforce a ceasefire of failing to protect Doe's supporters, who have been hunted down and slaughtered by rebels since the Liberian leader died in rebel hands on Sept. 10.

Niumley's statement came after three days of burning, looting and shooting by his men.

Gunfire echoed across the capital as the remnants of Doe's army battled Johnson's fighters.

Manmade chemicals, particu-

S. African police briefly detain Winnie Mandela

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — Police briefly detained Winnie Mandela Wednesday after stopping her car at a roadblock and finding spent cartridges in her vehicle, witnesses said.

Mrs. Mandela, who is to face charges of kidnapping and assault in a 1988 incident, was travelling to visit residents in the Tokoza township when she was stopped at a police roadblock.

The ANC said it objected to Mrs. Mandela's "trial by media," but did criticise the government.

Also Wednesday, President F.W. de Klerk met with his cabinet and Mandela conferred with his African National Congress as both sides sought solutions Wednesday to the violence in black townships around Johannesburg.

The government's decision to prosecute Mrs. Mandela for kidnapping and assault also was likely to come up at the two meetings.

Local media reports said de Klerk was expected to announce additional steps to curb the violence, possibly a dusk-to-dawn curfew in black areas near Johannesburg.

Column 8

Virus set to halt personal computers this Saturday

SYDNEY (R) — A flawed computer virus programme, first detected in Israel but which has since spread, is set to "freeze" personal computers throughout the world on Sept. 22, Australian scientists said Wednesday. Computer specialist Emlyn Creevy of the Queensland University of Technology said by telephone that the hard-to-detect programme, known as "frodo," will halt all operations in infected computers from Sept. 22. He said that although the virus does not immediately destroy computer data once activated, other researchers report that if used often it corrupts files with gibberish.

Creevy, leader of the university's Computer Virus Information Group, said the debilitating programme was discovered in Australian government computers in August.

"It takes over your system and does everything it can to interrupt (operations)," he said from Brisbane. Professor Bill Caeli, director of the university's Information Security Research Centre, said the virus affects all IBM and IBM-compatible personal computers (PCs) relying on the DOS system. He said it was first uncovered in computers of the Israeli army in April and has since been found in computers in Britain and the United States. The virus has spread via computer bulletin boards, public domain software, and sharing of programmes, Caeli said.

The three surviving men testi-

Former Gibraltar governor survives attack by gunmen

surgeon John Lotz said his condition was stable.

Police said the attack bore the hallmarks of the IRA.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, visiting Hungary, said: "The IRA now seem to be going for people who are defenceless at the time they are attacked. It is thoroughly cowardly."

On Tuesday, before the attack on Terry, the IRA admitted it was responsible for a wave of bombing and shooting across Britain in the past six weeks in its guerrilla campaign to end British rule in Northern Ireland.

Ozone hole detected early this year

WASHINGTON (AP) — The

Antarctic ozone hole has been detected a month earlier this year than in the past, due to improved methods of measuring the chemical, federal officials have reported.

Instruments aboard a polar orbiting satellite detected the beginning of an ozone hole on Aug. 22, and the region of depleted ozone has enlarged since then, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) announced Tuesday.

The thin layer of ozone high in the Earth's atmosphere protects the planet from dangerous ultraviolet radiation from the sun.

Manmade chemicals, particu-

larly chlorofluorocarbons, can damage that layer and scientists fear an increase of skin cancer and other damage to humans, animals and plants could occur if the thinning occurs over a populated region.

The so-called hole, actually a region of depleted ozone, has been detected during several recent Antarctic winters.

In the past, however, instruments have been able to measure ozone only using visible light. Because Antarctica has nearly six months of darkness in its winter, detection of the ozone hole has been possible only after mid-September in past years.

Now, NOAA reported, satel-

lite-borne instruments have been

used to measure ozone using infrared radiation, allowing the ozone hole to be detected during the darkness.

The ozone hole is generally

worst in October, which is springtime in that region.

NOAA officials said that they

have collected infrared measure-

ments from the region for several

years but only now have figured

out how to use this data to calcu-

late the ozone loss during the

Antarctic darkness.

That past data remains in stor-

age and scientists hope that they

can now use it to calculate dates

and strength of the ozone hole for

past years.

"The withdrawal of a large number of American troops is a clear sign of the efforts for disarmament in Europe," the Defense Ministry said in a statement.

It said about 60,000 of the 190,000 U.S. troops now here would leave by 1997.

East and West Germany, on the front line during the cold war, have been among the most heavily militarised areas in the world.

Moscow has agreed to withdraw its contingent of more than 350,000 troops from East Germany over the next four years, but Bonn wants its Western allies to retain a presence.

"It is especially important, also for the Atlantic alliance, that the U.S. is prepared to continue to keep armed forces on the territory of the Federal Republic of Germany," the Bonn statement said.

Departure of the troops is likely to have a negative effect on local economies in some parts of West Germany.

Rancher sticks neck out for ostrich meat

SOFIA (R) — A Bulgarian woodcarver who has made what he claims is the world's biggest tobacco pipe took a mighty puff

— with the help of a vacuum cleaner. "Onlookers watched as the pipe was lit with torch, kindled with a vacuum cleaner and put out with a fire extinguisher," the state news agency BTA said.

He said many of the cuts will be at small sites such as communications facilities, but three major air bases will be closed: Torrejon in Spain, and Lindsey and Hessisch Oldendorf in West Germany, he said.

Williams declined to predict

how many American troops

might come home, but he told reporters he expected more base

announcements in the future.

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at small sites such as communications

facilities, but three major air

bases will be closed: Torrejon in Spain, and Lindsey and Hessisch Oldendorf in West Germany, he said.

Bonw welcomed Tuesday's

Washington announcement that the United States would withdraw

troops from West Germany, but

said it was also important that the

U.S. retain some military presence.

Bonw told him that before the

beating he spoke with Price and

told him he had been despondent

over marital and financial prob-

lems.

"The preacher told him

the reason he was feeling that

way was that he had the devil in

him and needed to be exorcised,"

the doctor said. "Then the

preacher went to get some more

parishioners to beat it out of his

system."

Bulgarian makes 'biggest' tobacco pipe

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